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J. A. Trochet
1991-1992
General Index

Catalogue

#250 - 550

Journal

1991 Nevada: Elko, White Pine Cos.
Utah: Uinta Co.
Colorado: Gunnison, Fremont Cos.
New Mexico: San Miguel, Mora, McKinley, San Juan Cos.
Utah: Washington Co.
Calif: Kern, San Bernadino Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa, Cochise Cos.
New Mexico: Eddy, Grant Cos.

1992 Calif: Shasta Co.
Calif: San Bernadino, Los Angeles Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa Co.
Texas: Hidalgo, Cameron, Kenedy, Travis, Kinney, Jeff Davis, Presidio Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa Co.
New Mexico: Hidalgo Co.
Texas: Presidio, Jeff Davis, Randall, Armstrong Cos.
Calif: San Bernadino, Shasta Cos.
New Mexico: Hidalgo, Eddy, Socorro Cos.
Oregon: Harney Co.
Nevada: Elko Co.
Arizona: Navajo Co.

Species Accounts

J. A. Trochet
1991-1992

Catalogue

#250-550

Trochet, John

1991

Catalogue

On this initial field outing of the 1991 season, I forgot my catalogue from the previous two years. I cannot recall my last entry number, but it was in the 230-240 range, I believe. I am therefore starting this series at #250. Certainly 250 is not a duplicate number.

As with last year's entries, the abbreviation "STD" indicates standard soft part colors appropriate to sex. A reminder of what these are follows. For adult males: iris dark sepia brown; maxilla dark gray, greener proximally, tip black; mandible yellowish-gray proximally, with a dusky tip; exterior gonys yellowish; legs medium-dark grayish brown, toes slightly darker and slightly grayer; claws medium gray; mouth lining pale yellowish; throat flesh-pink. For adult females, only bill colors differ: ~~mandible~~ maxilla dull med.-dark gray with a darker tip. Mandible all dusky. Variations from these will be noted on individual entries. Other abbreviations: c̄ - with; s̄ - without; ō - otherwise; x̄ - except; RR - retained remiges; P's - primaries, etc.

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta County, Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 13

Ad. SK.

250 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2gm LT 2.8×2.5 mm RT 2.4×2.0 crop empty FAT 2 Sl. body molt

Bill all grayish-green, slightly greener on mandible, except blackish-brown distal culmen. Otherwise STD.

COMP. SKEL. Ad. SK.

251 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.8gm LT 6.5×6.0 mm RT 5.0×5.0 crop with few tiny white seeds. FAT 2 STD Ad ♂ wing

Plumage well worn. Left 2nd inner rectrix ½ molted in. Green-backed crown type, grayish-green back.

COMP. SKEL. Ad. SK.

252 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.1gm LT 4.2×4.0 mm RT 3.5×3.2 crop empty FAT 1 STD Ad ♂ wing

Plumage very worn. Green-backed → sl. toward black-backed intermediate cap type. Slightly grayish green back.

Trocket, John

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BLM land along Cub Creek, 1 mile E. of Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 14

Ad sk. crop empty
253 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.3gm LT 5.5×5.0 mm RT 5.0×4.8 FAT 2 STD X̄ tar on mand.
Plumage fresh. Retained remiges: Rt: 2 1°s, 2 2°s; Lt: 2 1°s, 32°s.

Ad sk. LGST. FOL. 0.8mm crop filled c̄ tiny yellow bifid seeds.
254 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.1gm L.O. 4.5×6.5 FAT 3 STD No R.R.
Plumage fresh.

Toe color = legs,
255 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.4gm FAT 1 X̄ STD Ad ♀ wing

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15

Ad. sk.
256 ♂ Carduelis tristis 12.1gm LT 3.0 × 2.8 RT 3.5 × 3.0 FAT 0-1 crop ½ full, tiny white seeds. Bill bright orange with dusky tip; legs fleshy; claws horn; iris dark brown.

Ad. sk. No B.P.; legst fol 0.8mm
257 ♀ Carduelis tristis 13.6gm L.O. 4.5×5.5mm FAT 1 Crop with tiny white seeds. molt: moderate in all body tracts, incl. crown. Bill dull orange with dusky tip; legs dull fleshy; iris dark brown

Ad. sk. crop empty.
258 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.8gm LT 5.2×5.0 RT 5.0×5.0 FAT 1 STD Ad ♂ wing
Plumage fresh. This bird part of trio at nest. Others include #259, and #260.

Ad. sk crop c̄ mod. 1mm white bifid seeds RR: BILAT 2 IN. 1°s & 2 OUT. 2°s
259 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.3gm LT 3.5×3.2 mm RT 3.5×3.0 FAT 0 STD
Plumage fresh. This bird part of trio at nest. Others include #258 and #260.

Ad. sk. Edematous brood patch 27×17mm oviduct sl. enlarged. 3 coalesced follic crop full v. small white seeds
260 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.7gm L.O. 5.0×9.5mm FAT 4 STD RR: BILAT 4 IN. 1°s
This bird part of trio at nest. Others included #258 and #259.

June 16

Ad sk. c̄ numerous pinhole sized non-ossif. areas filled. crop empty Ad ♂ wing
261 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.4gm LT 4.5×4.5mm RT 3.8×3.5 FAT 0 STD No RR.

Sk. ossif. X̄ 3×6mm window left occipital & supraocc. area. crop empty Legs darkest green c̄ RR: 2 IN. 1°s & 3 OUT. 2°s BILAT.
262 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.7gm LT 4.0×3.5mm RT 3.0×2.8 FAT 1 STD

COMP. SKEL. Ad. sk Gr.-black cap c̄ black malar line/patch little black brown saddle, & BB. crop empty Ad ♂ wing; Worn plumage
263 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2gm LT 6.0×5.0mm RT 5.5×5.0 FAT 2 STD

Ad. sk. crop empty RR: 2-1°, 4-2° (Rt)
264 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.0gm LT 6.5×6.0mm RT 5.5×5.2 FAT 1 STD 2-1°, 3-2° (Lt)

Troschet, John

1991

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BLM land along Cub Creek, 1 mile E. of Crew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elev. 5000 ft.

June 16

Ad. Sk.
265 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.1 gm LT 4.2 x 4.0 mm RT 3.5 x 3.5 crop empty FAT 2 iris red-dish brown ♂ STD Plumage v. fresh RR: 3-1°, 4-2° (R) 3-1°, 4-2° (L)

Ad. Sk.
*266 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm LT 4.5 x 4.2 mm RT 3.8 x 3.0 crop c̄ many sunflower seeds. FAT 1 STD Juv. wing
Slight body molt & all tracts. Partial molt bilaterally. Trio'd c̄ #267 & #268.
* This bird, and all remaining Beide Taken Today were put up June 17.

Ad. Sk.
*267 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm LT 3.5 x 3.2 mm RT 3.0 x 3.0 crop c̄ many sunflower seeds. FAT 0 Breast dirty No RR
Blue coat, not green, to gray on bill, otherwise soft part color STD. Trio'd c̄ #266 & #268

Ad. Sk.
*268 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm No B.P. Oviduct sl. enl. largest fol. 0.9 mm L.O. 5.5 x 9.0 crop c̄ many sunflower seeds FAT 2 No RR
Plumage fresh; bright yellow 1 mm spot on each side of maxilla at mid distance from tip to gape, ō STD. Trio'd c̄ #266 & #267.

Ad. Sk.
*269 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm oviduct not enlarged 2-1 mm follicles L.O. 6.0 x 5.0 crop empty FAT 2 STD Plumage fresh. No RR

Ad. Sk.
*270 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.5 gm No B.P. Oviduct sl. enl. largest follicle 0.5 mm L.O. 6.0 x 6.5 crop c̄ many sunflower seeds FAT 2 STD V. light body molt all tracts No RR

Ad. Sk.
*271 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm LT 4.0 x 3.8 mm RT 3.5 x 3.0 crop c̄ many sunflower seeds FAT 1 STD No RR

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 20

Ad. Sk.
272 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm LT 6.3 x 5.0 mm RT 6.1 x 5.1 crop empty FAT 1 legs darker gray, ō STD Ad ♂ wing
This bird paired with #273.

Ad. Sk.
273 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.7 gm No brood patch L.O. 4 x 5, granular crop empty FAT 1 STD No RR
This bird paired c̄ #272

Ad. Sk.
274 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.7 gm LT 5.5 x 5.0 mm RT 5.0 x 4.6 crop empty FAT 0 STD 3 IN. 1° coverts bilat & 1° #1 bilat retained

Ad. Sk. c̄ 1 mm median parietal window
275 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm LT 4.2 x 4.0 mm RT 4.0 x 4.0 crop empty FAT 1 STD RR: 3 IN. 1° (L) & 2 IN. 1° (R); OUT. 4 2° (L) x #2; OUT. 3 2° (R); OUT 1° CONT.
This bird paired c̄ #276.

Ad. Sk.
276 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm No brood patch. largest follicle 1.0 mm. L.O. 6.5 x 5.5 mm crop empty; small round white seeds in esophagus. FAT 0 STD
This bird paired with #275. New remiges: outer six 1°s bilat; tertials new also.

COMP. SKEL. Sk. not ors.
277 ? Carduelis pinus 11.6 gm gonad not found crop empty FAT 0 light body molt
Iris dark brown. Bill covered with resin. Legs medium-dark brownish gray.

Trochet, John

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Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 21

278	Sk. oss. x few pinpoint bipsilated windows. ♂ Carduelis psaltria Paired with #279.	10.0 gm	LT 5.4 x 5.0 mm RT 5.0 x 4.8	crop c̄ my sunflower	FAT 1	Mouth not examined, ō STD	RR: Rt: 1° #1, only
279	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria Paired with #278. moderate body molt.	8.8 gm	No BP. Lgst. fol. 0.6 mm L.O. 6.5 x 5.0 mm	crop empty	FAT 1	Bill lead gray, ō STD	RR: 3-1°, 2-2°(R) 3-1°, 3-2°(L)
280	Comp. skel. Sk. not oss. ♂ Carduelis pinus	11.9 gm	LT 0.8 mm RT 0.8 mm	crop full 1.2 x 0.3 mm white seeds.	FAT 0		Iris dark brown; bill covered c̄ resin; legs dark gray-brown
281	Sk. oss. x 3x7 mm window RT. post-orbital ♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.9 gm	LT 4.5 x 4.0 mm RT 4.2 x 3.8	crop c̄ greenish paste	FAT 1	STD	RR: 1° #1 Rt wing only.
282	Sk. oss. ♀ Carduelis psaltria	8.2 gm	No B.P. Lgst. fol. 0.6 mm L.O. 3.8 x 4.5	crop empty	FAT 0	STD	RR: 1° #1 Bilat.

June 22

283	Sk. oss. ♂ Carduelis psaltria Paired with #284.	9.6 gm	LT 3.0 x 3.0 mm RT 3.0 x 3.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds.	FAT 0-1	STD	RR: 2-2(R) 2-3(L) 1° covts old
284	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria Paired with #283	9.2 gm	No BP.; granular gonad L.O. 3.5 x 4.5 mm	crop empty	FAT 1	STD	RR: 2-3 Rt 2-4 Lt. 1° cov'ts All old.
285	Comp. skel. Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria Plumage typical ♂ green-backed bird, except lesser & median wing coverts all black.	9.4 gm	LT 3.8 x 3.5 mm RT 3.5 x 3.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds	FAT 1	sl. darker legs, ō STD	RR: 3-4 Rt, 3-4 Lt mixed 1° coverts
286	Comp. skel. Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria	10.3 gm	No BP.; granular gonad. L.O. 3.8 x 4.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds.	FAT 2	STD	RR: 2-2 (R) 2-2 (L) mixed 1° coverts
287	Comp. skel. Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria Plumage ~95% typical green-backed bird, there being only some black flecking laterally & posteriorly on the back.	9.8 gm	LT 4.2 x 4.0 mm RT 3.8 x 3.8	crop c̄ my sunflower	FAT 1	sl. darker legs, ō STD	RR: 2-3 BILAT OUT. 2 1° COV'TS NEW BILAT.
288	Comp. skel. Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria	9.6 gm	No BP. Lgst. fol. 1.2 mm L.O. 4.5 x 6.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds	FAT 2	Legs slightly darker ō STD	RR: NONE Plumage gray-green dorsally
289	Comp. skel. Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria Plumage "pure" green backed.	9.4 gm	LT 4.0 x 4.0 mm RT 4.0 x 4.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds.	FAT 1	mouth not examined, ō STD	RR: 1-3 BILAT 1° covts old.
290	Sk. oss. x 2 pinhole left parietal windows ♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.4 gm	LT 5.2 x 4.5 mm RT 5.0 x 4.5	few (non round) white seeds.	FAT 1	legs sl. darker, ō STD	RR: 2-4 Bilat 1° covts old.
291	Sk. oss. x 3 pinholes Rt. parietal windows ♀ Carduelis psaltria	8.8 gm	granular gonad L.O. 3.5 x 3.5 mm	crop 1/2 full (non round white seeds.	FAT 1	Legs sl. darker, ō STD	RR: 2-4 Bilat 1° covts all old.
* 292	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.5 gm	LT 3.5 x 3.5 mm RT 3.5 x 3.0	crop c̄ my sun flower seeds	FAT 1	legs darker & brighter, ō STD	RR: 2-4 Bilat all 1° covts old
	* This bird and all remaining birds taken today were put up on June 23 after being on ice overnight.						
* 293	Sk. oss. x 3x2.5 mm Lt. post-auricular window ♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.9 gm	LT 3.2 x 3.0 mm RT 3.0 x 2.7	crop empty	FAT 1	STD	RR: 2-4(R); 2-1° & 3-2°(L), but out. 2° NEW, old 1° COVTS

TROCHET, John

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Catalogue

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 22 (con't)

	SK. oss. ⅓ / mm window Lt. parietal						
*294	♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.0 gm	LT 4.2 x 3.5 mm RT 3.5 x 3.0	crop empty FAT 0	legs darker & browner ♂ STD	RR: 1° #1 BILAT; 2° #2 Rt ONLY; INNER 3 1° CONT BILAT	
	Ad. sk.						
*295	♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.7 gm	LT 4.2 x 4.0 RT destroyed	crop c̄ few my sunflower seeds FAT 1-2	iris dark brown (NO SEPIA) ♂ STD	RR: 2-3 BILAT OLD 1° COVERTS	
COMP. SKEL.	Ad. sk						
*296	♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.0 gm	LT 4.5 x 4.2 mm RT 4.0 x 4.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds FAT 1	STD	Typical Green back ♂ plumage Ad. ♂ wing	
	Ad. sk.	Elongated bird potter. Shelled egg in oviduct, 2 collapsed follicles		crop empty			
*297	♀ Carduelis psaltria	10.8 gm	L.O. 7.2 x 11.5 mm	FAT 2	STD	RR: 3-3 Bilat 2 fresh 1° covert & Bilaterally	
COMP. SKEL.			germinal gonad NO BP.	crop empty	iris dark brown (NO SEPIA) legs sl. lighter, ♂ STD	RR: 3-3 R 3-4 L old 1° cov'ts	
*298	♀ Carduelis psaltria	8.6 gm	L.O. 3.5 x 4.5	FAT 2			

Cañon City River Walk ½ mile E. of W. entrance, Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 5332 ft.

June 24

	Ad. sk.					
299	♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.2 gm	LT 6.0 x 5.0 mm RT 5.2 x 4.5	crop c̄ few small WHITE seeds FAT 0	legs dark brown, ♂ STD	RR: NONE. TOPOTYPE

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile downstream of confluence of Sapello and Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 26

COMP. SKEL.	SK. oss.					Partly eaten in mist net.
300	♂ Asterospalbula bullockii		LT 16 x 10 mm RT 11 x 8	FAT 0	crop empty	No molt.
	Iris med.-dark brown. Bill-maxilla blackish, mandible grayish blue; legs light gray; feet blackish gray c̄ pale margins to scutes & scales.					
INC. SKEL.	Sk. gone-bird partly eaten in cage	(HEAD MISSING)	LT 6.5 x 6.0 mm	crop gone	leg, toes & claws	RR: NONE
301	♂ Carduelis psaltria	7.5 gm	RT 5.2 x 4.5	FAT 0	STD	
	Ad sk		B.P. 26.5 x 14 mm. Unshelled egg in oviduct. Light follic 1.2 mm		crop empty	RR: 2-2(R), 2-3(L); Lt. 5th 1° COV'T NEW.
302	♀ Carduelis psaltria	10.5 gm	L.O. 9.5 x 8.0 mm	FAT 2	STD	ALL OTHERS OLD.
	Ad. sk.		LT 7.2 x 6.5 m	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds	legs darker brown, tongue all pink	RR: NONE
303	♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.9 gm	RT 5.5 x 5.0	FAT 0	♂ STD	
	Ad sk		LT 5.5 x 5.5 mm	crop empty	legs greyer	RR: NONE
304	♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.8 gm	RT 6.8 x 5.8	FAT 0	♂ STD	
	Ad sk		LT 4.8 x 4.5 mm	crop c̄ green paste	legs darker & browner	RR: NONE
305	♂ Carduelis psaltria	8.2 gm	RT 5.4 x 5.0	FAT 0	♂ STD	
	Ad. sk.		LT 5.5 x 5.0 mm	crop filled c̄ green paste	iris brown no sepia	RR: NONE
306	♂ Carduelis psaltria	10.1 gm	RT 5.2 x 4.5	FAT 0-1	♂ STD	
	Ad sk.		LT 5.2 x 5.0 mm	crop filled c̄ green paste		RR: NONE
307	♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.5 gm	RT 5.4 x 5.0	FAT 1	STD	
	Ad sk.		LGST. F&L. 1.3 mm, SEVERAL 2 mm. OVIDUCT ENLARGED	crop c̄ green paste	tongue all pink ♂	RR: NONE
308	♀ Carduelis psaltria	9.6 gm	L.O. 8.5 x 6.5 mm	FAT 2	STD	
	Ad. sk.		LT 7.2 x 6.8 mm	crop empty	feet brown, tongue all pink,	RR: NONE
309	♂ Carduelis psaltria	9.5 gm	RT 7.0 x 6.0	FAT 1	♂ STD	

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Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile downstream of confluence of Sapello and Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 26 (Con't)

Ad. SK — 27x18 mm Elongatous B.P.; Oviduct enlarged. Lgst follicle 1.2 mm — RR: 3-5 Bilat 1° Cov'ts ALL OLD.

310 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 10.0 gm L.O. 11.0x8.0 mm FAT 2 STD

This bird paired with #311. Crop with my sunflower seeds. Crown damaged during struggles in my transport cages.

Ad. SK. c̄ 1.0 mm ~~Rt~~ parietal window — Crop c̄ my sunflower seeds. Feet Grayer ō — RR: None

311 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.7 gm LT 5.2x5.0 mm RT 4.5x4.0 FAT 0-1 STD

This bird paired with #310. Crown damaged during struggles in my transport cages.

June 27

Ad. SK. — Crop empty — feet & legs sl. darker — RR: 2-3(1)2 (R) 2-3(1)2 (L) 1° Cov'ts #3 & 4 NEW (R) & 1 OLD ON (L). (NEW FEATHER IN MOLT)

312 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.5 gm LT 4.2x4.0 mm RT 4.0x4.0 FAT 1 ō STD

Moderate molt all body tracts. Outer rectrices and remiges in molt.

June 28

Ad. SK. — No B.P. Granular gonad — Crop empty

313 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 8.9 gm L.O. 5.5x3.5 FAT 1 STD — RR: None

Ad. SK. — No B.P.; Oviduct sl. enl.; 4 Foll. ≥ 1 mm — Crop c̄ my sunflower seeds

314 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 10.0 gm L.O. 7.5x5.2 mm FAT 2 STD — RR: None

Ad. SK. — Crop filled c̄ 1 mm bright yellow bifid seeds — Legs sl. brown, tongue all pink

315 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.8 gm LT 3.8x3.5 mm RT 3.5x3.0 FAT 1 ō STD — RR: 3-3 (R) 3-3 (L) 1° Cov'ts ALL OLD

Ad. SK. — Elongatous broad patch 31x22 mm. Oviduct sl. enlarged. Lgst follicle 1 mm. — Crop full white, green & yellow seeds. — Legs & feet reddish brown; Bill more greenish x culmen — ō STD

316 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 11.0 gm L.O. 7.8x7.0 mm FAT 3

This bird paired with #317. 3 collapsed follicles noted. RR: none.

Ad. SK. — Crop empty — Legs sl. darker

317 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 10.3 gm LT 4.5x3.8 mm RT 4.0x3.8 FAT 2 ō STD — RR: None

This bird paired with #316. Very bald skull.

June 29

Ad. SK. — No B.P. Granular gonad. — Crop empty — RR: 3-3 Bilat 1° Cov'ts OLD.

318 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.1 gm L.O. 5.0x4.0 mm FAT 1 STD

This bird paired with #319. Oviduct not enlarged.

Ad. SK. — Crop empty — Tongue all pink, ō

319 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 8.8 gm LT 4.0x3.8 mm RT 4.0x3.8 FAT 1 STD — RR: None

This bird paired c̄ #318

SK. OSS. x̄. 1 mm Lt parietal window — 27x16 mm elongatous broad patch. Lgst fol. 1.0 mm. Oviduct sl. enl. — Crop empty — RR: 1-3 Bilat; old 1° covert under 2 Rt, under 3 Lt.

320 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 10.0 gm L.O. 6.8x6.0 mm FAT 3 STD

Ad. SK. — Crop c̄ few my sunflower. — Legs more reddish brown

321 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.8 gm LT 6.0x5.0 mm RT 5.8x5.3 FAT 1-2 ō STD — RR: None

SK. OSS. x̄. Bifrontale 1 mm windows. — No B.P.; granular gonad. — Crop 1/2 full tiny white seeds — bis dark brown (sepia)

322 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.2 gm L.O. 4.5x4.5 mm FAT 1 ō STD — RR: 0-1 (3rd) (R) none (L). all new 1° Cov'ts.

Ad. SK. — Crop empty — Legs & feet sl. darker & grayer

323 ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.4 gm LT 3.8x3.5 mm RT 3.5x3.5 FAT 2 ō STD — RR: 1-4 (R) (6th 2° missing) 1-4 (L) 1° Cov'ts BILAT: #6 & #8 new

Ad. SK — No B.P. Granular gonad — Crop empty

324 ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.1 gm L.O. 3.5x2.5 FAT 2 — RR: 1-0 (R); none (L) 1° Covert: 3 out (R) & 4 out (L) new

Feet only (not legs) lighter & browner; Bill bluish, not greenish; ō STD

Trivett, John

1991

Catalogue

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

July 4

325	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.4 gm	No B.P. Left fol. 0.7 mm L.O. 4.0 × 3.5 mm	crop empty FAT 0	legs & feet pale ō STD	RR: none
	This bird paired with # 328. Oviduct not enlarged				
326	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.1 gm	LT 5.0 × 4.5 mm RT 4.0 × 3.8	crop empty FAT 0	legs & feet medium brown ō STD	RR: none
327	Ad. sk ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	LT 5.0 × 4.5 mm RT 4.5 × 4.2	crop full thistle seeds FAT 2	legs & feet medium brown ō STD	RR: 2-0 Bilat; new 1° cov: #6, #7 (R) #5-8 (L).
328	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 5.8 × 5.5 mm RT 5.5 × 5.2	crop c̄ few thistle seeds FAT 1	STD	RR: 2-2 Bilat; 1° cov's all new ~ #1 & #2 (R)
	This bird paired with # 325				

July 5

329	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1 gm	LT 5.5 × 5.2 mm RD 5.8 × 5.8	crop c̄ thistle & sunflower FAT 1	legs & feet medium brown ō STD	RR: 2-4 (R) 2-3 (L) 1° cov's all old
330	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm	LT 4.2 × 4.0 mm RT 4.0 × 4.0	crop empty FAT 0	feet blackish ō STD	Plumage v. worn RR: none
331	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm	LT 6.0 × 5.0 mm RT 5.2 × 4.8	crop c̄ many sunflower seeds FAT 1	STD	RR: none
332	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.3 gm	LT 4.8 × 4.5 mm RT 4.8 × 4.5	crop c̄ thistle & few sunflowers FAT 0	legs medium brown ō STD	RR: 1-0 Bilat 1° cov's #2 & #3 old Bilat.
333	Ad. sk ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm	LT 4.5 × 4.5 mm RT 4.5 × 4.5	crop c̄ few many sunflower seeds FAT 0	legs medium brown ō STD	RR: 2-2 Bilat Old: 1° cov's 1-3 Bilat
334	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	Edematous brood patch 27 × 18 mm L.O. 10.0 × 6.5 mm	crop empty FAT 2	STD	RR: none
	Largest follicle 1.2 mm. Oviduct sl. enlarged. Light body molt.				
335	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.8 gm	Edematous Brood patch 24 × 20 mm L.O. 8.5 × 6.0 mm	crop check full 0.5 mm round white seeds FAT 2	STD	RR: 2-1 (R); 2-2 (L) Old 1° cov's: #2, #3 Bilat.
	4 follicles ≥ 0.9 mm. Oviduct sl. enlarged. Light body molt. ~~mild~~ moderate molt on crown.				
336	Ad sk ♀ Carduelis psaltria 10.0 gm	Edematous B.P. 25.5 × 18 mm Left fol. 1.0 mm. L.O. 7.8 × 6.2 mm	crop full thistle seeds FAT 2		RR: none
	Oviduct not enlarged. STD soft part colors except legs dark gray, iris ō sepia tone. mouth not examined.				

July 6

337	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	No B.P. granular gland L.O. 5.0 × 4.0 mm	FAT 0	Mouth bloody ō STD	RR: 1-2 (3) 1 (R) 1-1 (4) 1 (L) 1° cov. #1-3 OLD BILAT.
	Crop full c̄ 1.2 × 0.3 mm sl. greenish white bifid seeds (= immature thistle). moderate body molt.				
338	Ad. sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 4.8 × 4.5 mm RT 4.0 × 4.0	crop empty FAT 0	feet blackish Bill ō greenish tinge ō STD	RR: none Mod. body molt
	This bird paired with # 339				
339	Ad. sk. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.7 gm	No B.P. ovary granular oviduct not enlarged L.O. 4.5 × 4.0 mm	crop empty FAT 1	legs & feet dark gray ō STD	RR: 2-4 (R) 2-1 (1) 2 (L) 1° cov: out. 3 old Bilat
	This bird paired with # 338. moderate body molt. Bilat. outer 1° molt — left last in preparation.				

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Simon Canyon Natural Area BLM adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

July 6 (con't)

COMP. SKEL. 340	Ad. Sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.8 gm	LT 5.8 x 5.5 mm RT 5.5 x 5.5	crop empty FAT 1		STD	RR: 1-1 Bilat. New 1° cov'ts: outer 1 (R) outer 3 (L)
	Typical green-backed ♂ plumage					
COMP. SKEL. 341	Sk. ossi. x̄ 1 mm vertical window ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.7 gm	LT 6.5 x 6.0 mm RT 6.5 x 6.0 mm	crop with my sunflower seeds. FAT 1	legs & feet dark brown	ō STD	RR: 2-3 Bilat 1° cov: inner 3 old bilat
	Typical Green-backed ♂ plumage					
COMP. SKEL. 342	Sk. ossi. x̄ 1 mm Rt. frontal window ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.5 gm	LT 5.5 x 5.2 mm RT 5.2 x 5.0	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds. FAT 1	Bill & gremial tones ō STD		RR: 1-2 Bilat. some 2 1° coverts old bilat.
	Typical Green-backed ♂ plumage					
COMP. SKEL. 343	Ad. Sk. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.3 gm	LT 5.0 x 4.5 mm RT 5.2 x 5.0	crop empty FAT 0-1	Dis & sepia tone, ō STD		RR: none
	Typical green-backed ♂ plumage. Moderate body molt.					
COMP. SKEL. 344	Ad Sk ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.5 gm	LT 5.5 x 5.2 mm RT 5.5 x 5.5	crop c̄ my sunflower seeds FAT 1		STD	RR: none
	Typical green-backed ♂ plumage.					

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon Kern County, California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 10

345	Sk. oss. V. light body molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.4 gm	LT 5.2 x 5.0 mm RT 4.5 x 4.5	crop empty FAT 0		STD	RR: all juv. x̄ 3° s & lt. 2° coverts. Tail molt.
346	Sk. oss. Mod. body molt. 3° molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	LT 4.5 x 4.0 mm RT 4.2 x 3.5	crop c̄ few 0.7 mm white seeds FAT 0		STD	RR: Juv. wing & tail c̄ molting 13 #1-3 in & #4 25 % in. Tail molt
347	Sk. oss. No body molt. ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.8 gm	Membrane-bound egg in oviduct. L.O. 9.0 x 5.0 mm	crop full 1 mm white seeds. FAT 1	iris ō sepia ō STD		RR: all remiges old juvenile feathers Tail in molt.
	Edematous brood patch 19 x 27.5 mm. Largest follicle 2.8 mm. Rt 1st toe lacking 3rd phalanx.					
348	Sk. oss. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.3 gm	LT 6.0 x 5.2 mm RT 5.2 x 4.8	crop empty FAT 0-1	legs dark brownish-gray ō STD		RR: all few mites present
	Very light body molt ventral tracts.					
349	Sk. oss. No body molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	LT 4.2 x 3.8 mm RT 4.0 x 3.5	crop empty FAT 0		STD	RR: all x̄ 1°s #6 & #7 bilat, & 1° #9 (R). Tail 1 yr. old.
350	Sk. oss. V. light body molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm	LT 5.8 x 5.2 mm RT 5.2 x 4.8	crop empty FAT 1	mouth not examined legs dark brown ō STD		RR: 2-2 Bilat. Rt. 2 outer rectrices missing
351	Sk. oss. No molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1 gm	LT 4.5 x 4.0 mm RT 4.0 x 3.5	crop 1/4 full 1 mm white seeds FAT 0-1		STD	RR: all old ad ♂ wing & tail
352	Sk. oss. No molt. ♂ Melospiza melodia 19.4 gm	LT 9.2 x 7.8 mm RT 8.0 x 7.2	crop empty c̄ small seeds & chitin pieces. FAT 0	Stomach		Heat net mortality. Scores of mites on this bird.
	Iris dark brown. Maxilla medium ~~[illegible]~~ grayish brown, mandible lighter. Legs and feet light brown. Claws dark horn.					

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South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 10 (con't)

Sk. not oss. — No BP. granular gonad — crop empty

353 ♀ Carduelis lawrencei 9.9gm. L.O. 1.0 X 0.5mm FAT 1 — light body molt

Iris very dark brown. Bill — max. medium brownish pink; mandible very slightly paler. Legs & toes light luminous brown. Claws med. horn.

July 11

Sk. not oss. Light body molt. — granular gonad — crop empty — Iris sepia, legs dark gray brown ō STD — fresh (juv.) wing & tail

354 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 6.9gm L.O. 1.0 X 0.4mm FAT 0

July 18

Sk. not oss. — finely granular gonad — crop empty — Light-moderate body molt all tracts

355 ♀ Carduelis lawrencei 8.9gm L.O. 1 X 1mm FAT 0

Iris dark brown. Bill light-med. grayish pink, culmen darker. Legs light brown. Claws med. horn. Mouth not examined.

Sk. not oss. — LT <1mm — crop empty — Soft part colors as #355. Very light molt vestigial tracts only.

356 ♂ Carduelis lawrencei 8.7gm RT <1mm FAT 0-1

Sk. not oss. — crop empty — Soft part colors as #355 x legs sl. darker. Very light body molt.

357 ? Carduelis lawrencei 8.8gm gonads not found. FAT 0-1

Sk. oss. No body molt — No BP. Light fol. 1.5mm — crop 1/2 full my sunflowers. — Iris dark brown. Bill lt. brownish pink. Legs lt brown. Claws med horn. MOUTH NOT EXAMINED

358 ♀ Carduelis lawrencei 9.6gm L.O. 8.5 x 4.0mm FAT 0

Sk. not oss. — granular gonad — crop empty — Soft part colors as #355. Light-moderate molt all tracts.

359 ♀ Carduelis ~~psaltria~~ lawrencei 8.8gm L.O. 1 X 1.5mm FAT 0

Sk. oss. — LT 3.5 x 3.5mm — crop full dry sunflower seeds — Soft part colors as #358. No body molt.

360 ♂ Carduelis lawrencei 10.2gm RT 3.2 x 3.0 FAT 0-1

Sk. not oss. — crop empty — Bill med grayish pink ō colors as #355. No body molt.

361 ♀ Carduelis lawrencei 9.3gm L.O. 1.5 x 2.0mm FAT 2

Sk. oss. — LT 1.2 x 1.2mm — crop 1/3 full my sunflower — Soft part colors as #358 No molt.

362 ♂ Carduelis lawrencei 9.4gm RT 1.2 x 1.0 FAT 1

Sk. oss. — LT 1.5mm — crop empty. — Soft part colors as #358.

363 ♂ Carduelis lawrencei 9.6gm RT 1.5mm FAT 0 — Several mites on skin.

No body molt. Wing molt: 1° #1 20% in bilaterally; 1° #2 in sheath bilaterally.

Sk. not oss. x small area at occiput — No BP. granular gonad. — crop empty — Tops pale brown, ō STD — fresh (juv.) wings & tail.

364 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.3gm L.O. 1.2 X 0.5mm FAT 0

Sk. 1/2 oss: ant parietal & frontal area not oss. — Gonads not found — crop empty. — Fresh (juv) wings & tail

365 ? Carduelis psaltria 8.5gm FAT 0 STD

Viscera soupy for unknown reasons. Extremely heavy body molt except light molt capital tract.

Sk. oss. Mod-heavy body molt. — LT 4.2 x 4.0mm — crop empty — Legs & toes med gray, ō STD — ad. ♂ wings & tail.

366 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.2gm RT 4.2 x 4.0 FAT 0 STD

Sk. oss. Mod heavy molt all tracts — LT 6.0 x 5.2mm — crop 2 few 1mm white seeds — Legs & toes med grayish gray ō STD — ad. ♂ wing & tail

367 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm RT 5.2 x 5.0 FAT 0

Sk. not oss. Light molt dorsal & humeral tracts — No BP. Granular gonad. — crop empty — Mouth not examined ō STD — fresh (juv) wing & tail. Viscera soupy.

368 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.8gm L.O. 1.2 X 1.0mm FAT 0-1

Sk. oss. only at occiput. — No BP. Granular gonad. — crop 1/3 full 1mm white seeds. — STD

369 ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.4gm L.O. 1.5 x 1.2mm FAT 0

Viscera soupy. Moderate body molt all tracts. Fresh (juv.) wings & tail.

Sk. mostly oss.: Bilat. 2x3mm lat. parietal windows — LT 4.8 x 4.0mm — crop empty — Mod-heavy body molt all tracts!

370 ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm RT 4.5 x 4.0 FAT 1 STD

Mouth old juv. Remiges: ad 1° #1 10% (L) & 50% (R); Ad. 2° #1 50% Bilat. Ad. 2° #2 40% (R). No tail molt.

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South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co. California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 19

371	SK. not oss. V. light body molt	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.7gm	NO BP. granular gonad L.O. 2.0X2.2mm	crop empty FAT 1	legs pale brown, ō STD	fresh (juv.) wings & tail
372	SK. oss. No molt	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm	Oviduct sl. enl. BP 17.5X27mm. largest fol. 0.6mm. L.O. 5.8X6.5mm	crop empty FAT 3	legs pale brown, ō STD	AD ♀ WING & TAIL. NEW: 1° #5 & #6 (R) & LAT RECTRICES BILAT. RECT. #6 (R) MISSING

July 20

373	SK. oss. No body molt	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.3gm	Oviduct sl. enl. largest fol. 1.0mm. BP. 16X26.5mm L.O. 5.0X6.8mm	crop empty. FAT 1	Toes pale brown, ō STD	OLD JUV. F.F. X 1° MOLT: 1° #1 / 70% #2 10% BILAT. RECTRICES ALL OLD.
374	SK. oss. No body molt	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1gm	LT 6.0X5.0mm RT 5.2X4.5	crop ½ full 1mm white seeds. FAT 1	Mouth not examined. ō STD	ad ♂ wing & tail
375	SK. oss. only at occiput & cornally	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.8gm	granular gonad L.O. 2.0X2.5mm	crop c̄ 2 white seeds & 3 1mm pieces green leaf. FAT 0-1	STD	fresh wing & tail Mod. body molt.
376	SK not oss. Mod body molt all tracts	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.7gm	LT <1mm RT <1mm	crop empty FAT 2	STD	fresh wing & tail

July 21

377	SK. oss. V. light molt ventral tracts	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.5gm	LT 4.5X4.0mm RT 4.2X3.0	crop c̄ few white seeds. FAT 1	legs & toes light warm brown ō STD	worn ad ♂ wing & tail
378	SK. not oss. Light mod. body molt	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2gm	LT <1mm RT <1mm	crop c̄ 6-1mm white seeds FAT 3	legs light warm brown ō STD	fresh (juv.) wing & tail
379	SK. not oss. No body molt	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.6gm	granular gonad L.O. 1.5X0.8mm	crop empty FAT 2	STD	fresh (juv.) wing & tail
380	SK. not oss. Mod. body molt all tracts	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.2gm	Granular gonad L.O. 1.2X0.8	crop c̄ few 1mm white seeds FAT 2	STD	Fresh (juv.) wing & tail
381	SK. oss. Mod. body molt all tracts	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0gm	LT 3.8X3.2mm RT 3.5X3.2	crop empty FAT 2	STD	RR: 2-5 Bilat ad ♂ tail
382	SK. not oss. Light body molt.	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.7gm	granular gonad L.O. 1.0X0.6mm	crop empty FAT 2	Mouth not examined ō STD	Fresh (juv) wing & tail Rt. outer 3 1°s coming in.
383	SK. not oss. Light body molt.	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.3gm	LT <1mm RT <1mm	crop c̄ few tiny white seeds. FAT 1	bris & sepia ō STD	[redacted] Rt. 3rd 1° 60% IN; ō FRESH JUV. WINGS & TAIL.
384	SK. oss. X 3X2 molt. frontal window	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.6gm	BP. 16X27mm sl. edema oviduct enlarged L.O. 8.5X5.5mm	crop 1/4 full white seeds. FAT 1	legs medium gray ō STD	adult ♀ wings & tail.

Light body molt. 3 largest follicles ≥ 1.2mm.

385.	SK. oss. No body molt.	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm	LT 4.2X4.0mm RT 4.2X3.5	crop empty FAT 1	STD	9th Lt 1° missing 3° molt bilat; ō ad ad ♂ wing & tail

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs section of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co. New Mexico. Elevation 3650 ft.

July 30

386	SK not oss.	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.4gm	L.O. 1mm, granular	crop c̄ many HELIANTHUS SEEDS FAT 1		Juv. still in molt

bris & sepia tone. Bill med. blue-gray with slightly darker tip. Legs & toes light-med. brown, ō STD

387	SK. oss. only at occiput	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1gm	LT. 1mm RT 1mm	crop empty, but lower esophagus c̄ HELIANTHUS SEEDS. FAT 1	legs & feet dark gray-blk-brown (lows pale brown), ō STD	Heavy body molt.

Wing molt: new 1° 6 & 7 bilat; 8 coming in. Tail molt. med. 1° cov't molt. 3° molt. 2°s all old.

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Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs section of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 ft.

July 30 (cont'd)

Sk. oss. only at occiput & medial parietal areas

388 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.0 gm LT 0.6 mm RT 0.6 mm — crop c̄ many sunflower seeds. FAT 0 — legs & feet & bill dark gray 0 STD

Very heavy body molt all tracts. Wing molt: 1° 6 & 7 new bilat, #8 coming in; median coverts and 3°s in molt; 2°s old. Tail molt in progress.

Sk not oss. — granular gonad

389 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.8 gm. LO 1.5 x 1.5 mm — crop mostly sunflower seeds, few thistle & HELIANTHUS. FAT 1 — bill dark gray. Legs almost black. Iris & corpus tone 0 STD. — Completing body molt.

July 31

Sk. oss. No molt — WRINKLED, NON-EDEM. BP 27 x 18 mm, OVIDUCT NOT ENLARGED. — crop empty — RR: None

390 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.4 gm LO. 2.5 x 3.5 mm — FAT 0 — STD

Sk. not oss. Heavy body molt — granular gonad. — crop c̄ few HELIANTHUS SEEDS — FAT 0-1 — STD — RR: NO RETAINED 1°s

391 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.9 gm L.O. 1 x 1.5 mm

Molt in progress 3 Rt outer rectrices & greater primary coverts. Lt. 5th 1° missing.

Ad. Sk. — wrinkled, non-edem. BP 26 x 16.5 mm, legs fol. 1.2 mm. Oviduct not enl. — crop empty — RR: Old Ad. 1° #1 & #2 BILAT. OLD 2° #1 BILAT & #6 Lt.

392 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.5 gm L.O. 3.5 x 5.0 mm — FAT 1 — STD.

Ad. Sk. Plumage fresh, no active molt. — LT 6.0 x 5.2 mm — crop 1/2 full sunflower seeds. — mouth not examined. — RR: 4-3 (Lt), 3-3 (Rt); OUT. 2 1° COVTS (Lt) & OUT. 3 (Rt) NEW

393 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.8 gm RT 5.0 x 5.5 — FAT 1 — STD

Ad. Sk. Sl. body molt. — LT 4.8 x 4.2 mm — crop c̄ few HELIANTHUS SEEDS. — Iris & sepia tone 0 — RR: 3-4 Bilat 1° coverts all old. few mites present

394 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 8.8 gm RT 4.5 x 3.8 mm — FAT 1 — STD

Sk. oss. x̄ 1 mm Lt parietal window — crop empty — Ad ♂ wing

395 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 10.0 gm LT 5.0 x 5.0 mm RT 5.0 x 4.2 — FAT 0 — STD

Very light body molt. Rt P5 missing owing to cage injury.

Sk. oss. x̄ 2 x 3 mm Rt. mid-parietal window & 1 mm Rt. frontal window. — crop empty — Iris bright sepia, 0 STD — Ad ♂ wing

396 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.7 gm LT 5.0 x 5.0 mm RT 5.0 x 4.8 — FAT 0

Left 1° #9 missing; old ad. 1° #3 Lt.; old ad. 1° #3 & #4 Rt.

Sk. not oss. x̄ occiput & parietal midline — crop empty; brown esophagus c̄ few HELIANTHUS — legs blackish gray, 0 STD.

397 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 8.6 gm LT 0.7 mm RT 0.7 — FAT 0

Moderate body molt all tracts. Wing molt: inner greater coverts bilat.

August 1

COMP. SKEL. Ad Sk — old BP 32 x 23 mm. legs fol 1 mm. — crop empty

398 ♀ Cardinalis pinus 11.6 gm L.O. 5.5 x 6.5 mm — FAT 0 — No molt

Iris dark brown. Bill maxilla lead gray, paler at base; mandible same color as max. base, tinged brownish. Legs & feet reddish brown.

Sk. not oss. x̄ occiput — granular gonad — 2-3 white Bifid seeds in crop. — legs blackish 0 STD — New 3°s; tail molt; other FF old.

399 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.8 gm L.O. 3.2 x 2.5 mm — FAT 1-2

Light body molt all tracts.

August 2

Sk. oss. No body molt — crop empty — legs blackish, iris & sepia, 0 STD — Ad ♂ wing

400 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 8.3 gm LT 5.2 x 4.5 mm RT 4.5 x 4.0 — FAT 1

Sk. not oss. x̄ occiput — crop c̄ 6-8 0.5 mm spherical white seeds — legs blackish 0 STD — Juv. ♂ wing.

401 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 8.5 gm LT 4.2 x 4.0 mm RT 4.5 x 4.0 — FAT 1

Light-moderate body molt all tracts. No wing or tail molt.

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Gila River 4 miles downstream from Highway 180 bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

August 6

	SK. not oss. X occiput	granular gonad	crop empty	legs dark grayish-brown		Sex confirmed despite black feathers on crown
402	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.1gm	L.O. 1mm	FAT 0	0 STD		
	Extremely heavy molt all body tracts. Wing molt: 1° #4 90% bilat; #5 75% bilat; #6 35% bilat; #7 missing bilat. 3°s & tail molt also present.					
	SK. oss. No body molt.	LT 5.5x5.0mm	crop c/ few thistles			ad ♂ wing
403	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm	RT 6.0x5.2mm	FAT 0	STD		
	SK. oss. V. light body molt	LT 4.2x3.8mm	crop 1/3 full thistles			ad ♂ wing
404	♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.5gm	RT 4.0x3.2	FAT 3	STD		
	SK. oss. No body molt	LT 3.8x3.5mm	crop 1/2 full thistles	Lt. 3rd toe nearly missing		Outer 4 1°s bleat. new; ad; 3°s new. Retained Juv. FF. observance. Juv. tail.
405	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2gm	RT 3.5x3.5	FAT 3	STD		
	SK. oss. No body molt	LT 3.5x3.0mm	crop empty			ad ♂ wing & tail
406	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4gm	RT 3.5x3.0	FAT 2	STD		
	SK. not oss. X occiput & parietal midline	granular gonad	crop 1/2 full 0.5mm round white seeds.	legs dark brownish gray		Juv. wing & tail
407	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.7gm	L.O. 2x2	FAT 1-2	0 STD		Lt. body molt
	SK. oss. No molt	LT 4.5x4.5mm	crop empty	Bill less gray, slighter green		ad wing & tail
408	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0gm	RT 4.2x4.0	FAT 1	0 STD		
	SK. oss. No molt	LT 5.0x4.5mm	crop empty	mouth not examined		ad wing & tail
409	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.4gm	RT 4.0x4.0	FAT 1	0 STD		

August 7

	SK. not oss. X occiput & interorbital area	LT 4.0x4.0mm	crop empty	legs dark brown mouth not examd.		Retained Juv FF: 1°s 1-3 BILAT, ALL 2°s 3°s, TAIL; 1°s 6-9 NEW
410	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4gm	RT 4.0x3.5	FAT 3	0 STD		
	Slight-moderate body molt all tracts.					
	SK. oss. No body molt	NO BP; lgst fol. 1mm.	crop c/ few thistles			fresh wing & tail
411	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.5gm	L.O. 2.5x3.0mm	FAT 3	STD		
	SK. oss. No molt	LT 5.5x4.8mm	crop empty			ad ♂ wing & tail
412	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.7gm	RT 5.0x4.5	FAT 2	STD		
	SK. oss. No body molt	LT 6.0x5.0mm	crop empty			ad ♂ wing & tail
413	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1gm	RT 4.5x4.0	FAT 1-2	STD		
	SK. oss. No molt	NO BP. No end fol.	crop 2/3 full thistles	legs dark body dark gray		RR: 1-3 bilat.
414	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm	L.O. 2.0x2.2mm	FAT 3	0 STD		

TROCHET, J.A.

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At the beginning of the 1892 field season, I again summarize the commonly used abbreviations that I use in my catalogue. These are: $\bar{c}$ - with; $\bar{s}$ - without; $\bar{x}$ - except; $\bar{o}$ - otherwise; RR: - retained remiges, the first number indicating the number of inner primaries, beginning c̄ primary #1, and the second number the number of outer secondaries, ending with secondary #1, e.g. RR: 2-3 Bilat indicates that both wings retain the previous generation of primaries #1 & #2 and secondaries #3, #2, and #1; 1° - primary flight feather; 2° - secondary flight feather; 3° - tertial; FF - flight feathers; V. - very; sl. - slight(ly); enl. - enlarged; B.P. - brood patch; lgst. fol. - largest follicle; mod. - moderate; bilat. - bilateral(ly); STD - standard soft part colors. These standard soft part colors are for adult ♂♂, iris dark sepia brown; maxilla dark gray, greener proximally, tip black; mandible yellowish-gray proximally, with a dusky tip; Anterior gonys yellowish; legs medium-dark grayish brown, toes slightly darker and slightly grayer. Claws medium gray; mouth lining pale yellowish; throat flesh pink. Adult ♀♀ differ only in bill colors: maxilla dull medium-dark gray with a darker tip. Mandible all dusky. Bills of juveniles all lead gray, legs and feet usually medium brown and claws dark horn. Other soft part colors as in adults. Where soft part colors depart from "STD" colors for each age/sex class, these are noted on individual entries; LT - left testis; L.O - left ovary

22491 Willow Drive Palo Cedro Shasta Co. California. Elevation 500 ft.

March 25

	Ad. SK.	V. light dorsal tract molt	LT 4.0 x 3.0 mm	cloaca c̄ few 1 mm spherical white seeds		ad ♂ wing & tail
415	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm		RT 3.5 x 3.2	FAT 1	STD	
	Ad. SK	Lt. molt all tracts	No BP. Oviduct sl. enl. Lgst. fol. 0.8 mm	cloaca c̄ few 1 mm spherical white seeds	mouth not examined	ad ♀ wing & tail
416	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm		L.O. 3.0 x 6.8 mm	FAT 1	♂ STD	

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1892

Catalogue

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta Co, California. Elevation 500 ft.

March 25 (cont'd)

417	Ad. sk. No molt ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 8.6 gm	LT 3.5x3.2 mm RT 3.0x3.0	crop 1/3 full white seeds. FAT 3	STD		ad ♂ wing & tail
418	Sk. ost. x̄ 3x3 mm Lt. FRONTAL window. ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.2 gm	ovidUCT not enl. No BP. No enl. follicles. L.O. 3.5x4.8 mm	crop 2/3 full white seeds. FAT 3	legs med. grayish brown ♂ STD		moulting old wings & tail. Ad. 1° 4-6 (Lt) & 5-6 (Rt)
419	Ad. sk. Lt body molt all tracts ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 8.9 gm	oviduct sl. enl. NO BP. or ENL. FOL. L.O. 4.0x3.0	crop empty FAT 1	legs med. grayish-brown ♂ STD		1° & 5 adult ♂ juv. pattern bill.
420	Ad. sk. No molt ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 3.5x3.5 mm RT 3.2x3.0	crop c̄ few white seeds. FAT 2	STD		Retained juv: 2-2 bill.
421	Ad. sk. No body molt ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.5 gm	LT 3.0x3.0 mm RT 3.0x3.0	FAT	STD		Ad ♂ wing & tail 2 Rt lateral rectrices missing
422	Ad. sk. No body molt ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.0 gm	oviduct not enl. No blood patch or enl. follicle. L.O. 2.5x3.2 mm	CROP c̄ 3 1mm GREEN LEAF FRAGMENTS & 4 WHITISH SEEDS. FAT 2	legs med. brown, ♂ STD		No wing or tail molt. All (?) retained juv. FF.
423	Ad. sk. V. light body molt ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.6 gm	quiescent gonad No BP or enl. fol. L.O. 2.5x4.0 mm	crop c̄ few white seeds. FAT 2	STD		ad & wing; RT outer rectrix missing
424	Ad. sk. No molt ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.0 gm	LT 5.5x5.0 mm RT 5.0x4.2	crop full - half 1 mm white seeds; half 0.5 mm round brown seeds. FAT 0-1	STD		ad ♂ wing & tail
425	Ad. sk. V. light body molt ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 8.8 gm	LT 4.8x4.0 mm RT 4.5x3.8	crop empty FAT 2	STD		Retained juvenile wing & tail

Armstrong Ranch 2 miles E. Armstrong, Kenedy Co, Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

April 28

426	Ad. sk. ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 10.1 gm	LT destroyed RT 4.5x4.0 mm	crop 1/3 full thistles FAT 0	BLACK CULMEN BRIGHT YELLOW TOMIA ♂ STD		ad ♂ wing & tail
	This bird paired with # 427.					
427	Ad. sk. ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.4 gm	No BP. Lgst. fol. 0.8 mm L.O. 3.5x5.5 mm	crop 2/3 full thistles FAT 1-2	STD		old 1° #6; retained all 2° & 3 IN. 1°s. New tail.
	This bird paired with #426.					

April 30

428	Ad. sk. Mod. body molt all tracts ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 4.0x3.5 mm RT 3.8x3.5	crop 1/2 full thistles FAT 0-1	STD		RETAINED AD. 1° #2 & #3 BILAT; MOLTING IN 2 OUT. RECTS. & 3 OUT. REMIGES.
	This bird paired with #429.					
429	Ad. sk. Mod. body molt vent. tracts, lt. in other tracts ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.6 gm	No BP. Lgst. fol. 0.7 mm Oviduct not enl. L.O. 4.2x3.5 mm	crop c̄ few thistles FAT 2	STD		1° count #2 (Lt) new, others old; ♂ FRESH AD. & WINGS & tail
	This bird paired with # 428.					
430	Ad. sk. ♀ Cardueliss psaltria 9.9 gm	Edematous BP. 2.0x2.8 mm lgst. fol. 1.2 mm; 1 regr'd fol. L.O. 5.6x4.2 mm	crop empty FAT 2	Iris ♂ sepia tone ♂ STD		1's new x̄ #3(R) & #4(L) & #5(R) missing. 2 central & 2(R) lat. rects. old.
	This bird paired with # 431.					
431	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. ♂ Cardueliss psaltria 9.8 gm	LT 5.0x4.2 mm RT 3.8x3.8	crop full my sunflower seed. FAT 2	STD		Ad. ♂ wings & tail
	This bird paired with # 430.					

Trocaet, John

1992

Catalogue

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

May 6

432	Ad. sk. c̄ 0.7 mm Rt frontal window ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.7 gm	LT 4.5x4.0 mm RT 4.0x3.5	crop full thistles FAT 0-1		STD	mod. body molt. Ad ♂ wings & tail
433	Ad. sk. This bird captured May 1st ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 10.0 gm	LT 4.2x4.0 mm RT 4.0x3.8	crop empty FAT 1		STD	mod. body molt Ad ♂ wings & tail

May 8

434	Ad. sk. mod-heavy body molt ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.8 gm	LT 3.8x3.8 mm RT 3.5x3.2	crop full thistle FAT 1	mouth bloody ō	STD	RR: 2-3(R); 2-4(L) 1° covts all old
435	Ad. sk. Light body molt ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.7 gm	LT 4.8x4.5 mm RT 4.2x4.0	crop full thistle seeds FAT 0		STD	Ad wing

May 10

436	Ad. sk. Lt body molt ventral tracts ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.5 gm	LT 5.2x4.2 mm RT 5.0x3.8	crop 2/3 full thistles FAT 0-1		STD	RR: 3-3 Bilat; 1° covts all old & Rt out. 2; Lt ½ tail missing
437	Ad sk mod. body molt all tracts ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.3 gm	LT 4.2x4.2 mm RT 4.0x3.5	crop empty FAT 1	skin & sepia tone, ō	STD	RR(Ad): 2-1 Bilat. Tail molt
438	Ad. sk. Lt molt ventral tracts ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 8.9 gm	LT > RT present but not measurable due to injury	crop empty FAT 0	Throat bloody, max dark gray, ō	STD	Very hard shot-viscera obliterated. Ad wing & tail
439	Sk. oss. x 4 1.5x1 hen windows across top of skull ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.4 gm	LT 4.5x4.0 mm RT 4.0x3.5	crop c̄ few my sunflowers FAT 1		STD	RR: 3-4 Bilat; all 1° covts old. Most of Rt. tail missing.

captured 30 Apr.

This bird paired with # 440. Plumage fresh, no active molt. Numerous small mites in feathers and on skin.

440	Ad. sk. No molt ♀ Cardinalis cardinalis 10.0 gm	B.P. 28x20 mm. oviduct sl. enl. L.O. 4.5x5.8 mm	crop c̄ few my sunflowers. FAT 3		STD	RR(AD): 1-5(L), 0-5(R) Tail mostly old. 4 out 1° covts bilat old.

This bird paired with # 439. Largest follicle 1.0 mm.

May 11

441	Sk. oss. Plumage fresh, no active molt. ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.6 gm	LT 5.5x5.0 mm RT 5.2x4.8	crop full my sunflower FAT TR.		STD	Ad wing & tail

This bird, captured April 30, paired with # 442.

442	Ad. sk. No molt ♀ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.4 gm	No Brood Patch. oviduct sl. enl. L.O. 3.5x4.0	crop empty. FAT 2		STD	4th 2° bilat old; ō new FF.

This bird, captured April 30, paired with # 441. Largest follicle 0.7 mm

443	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. Lt. molt ventral tracts ♂ Cardinalis cardinalis 9.9 gm	LT 6.0x5.2 mm RT 5.5x5.4	crop c̄ few my sunflowers FAT 1		STD	RR: JUV 2-3 Bilat; 1° covts 3-4-5(R) & 3-4(L) new, else old.

This bird, netted April 30, paired with # 444.

444	Sk. oss. x̄ molt. small lacunae. ♀ Cardinalis cardinalis 8.9 gm	No BROOD PATCH LGST. FOL. 0.9 mm. OVIDUCT SL. ENL. L.O. 3.5x4.2 mm	crop empty FAT 2	Bill sl. greener, ō	STD	RR: JUV. 2-3(R) & 1-3(L); 1° covts 6-9(R) old, else new.

This bird, captured April 30, paired with # 443. Plumage fresh

445	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. ♀ Cardinalis cardinalis 10.1 gm	No B.P. Lgst fol. 0.9 mm oviduct sl. enl. L.O. 4.0x5.2 mm	crop empty FAT 3		STD	RR: Ad. 1°s 1-4 bilat. No body molt.
446	Ad. sk. No molt. ♂ Parula pitiayumi 6.8 gm	Shot by error LT 5.0x4.2 mm RT 4.0x3.8	crop empty, stomach & chitinous mass, 2 small beetles. FAT 0			IRIS V. DARK BROWN; MAXILLA BLACK & YELLOW TOMIUM; MAND. MED. YELLOW - TARSI HORN. FEET PALE YELLOW. CLAWS LT. BROWN. MOUTH LINING YELLOWISH-PINK.
447	Sk. oss. ♂ Amazilia yucatanensis 3.7 gm	LT 3.5x3.2 mm RT 3.5x3.0	FAT 0			No molt.

Collected by Tobin Armstrong, who found it dead on his porch.

Jocas, John

1992

Catalogue

Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area, 22½ miles N. Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 ft.

May 16

448 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.5 gm — Sk. not oss. Heavy body molt all tracts. LT 0.3 mm RT 0.3 mm. Crop empty. FAT TR. All FF rachis (prox.) still in sheath.
Iris dark brown; bill gray, max. sl. darker; prox.-most max yellow at gape; feet & tarsi gray; soles lt brown; claws horn; bill lining & tongue tip yellow. Throat reddish pink.

449 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 9.6 gm — Sk. not oss. Heavy body molt all tracts. granular gonad. L.A. 0.6 X 2.1 mm. Crop empty. FAT 1. All FF rachis (prox.) still in sheath.
Soft part colors like #448, ẍ mandibular tomium yellowish, and pink at gape.

450 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 10.4 gm — Sk. oss. No molt. No BP. Last. fol. 1.2 mm. Oviduct sl. enl. L.A. 4.2 X 6.8 mm. Crop full thistle seeds. FAT 2. Prox. mand. tomium yellow. ō STD. Tail & old. wing all new ẍ rt 3rd 2°.
This bird paired with #451. Putative parent of #448 & #449.

451 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.8 gm — Ad. sk. No molt. LT 4.8 X 4.0 mm RT 4.0 X 4.0. Crop full thistles. FAT 2. STD. Ad wing & tail.
This bird paired with #450. Putative parent of #448 and #449.

May 17

452 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 9.8 gm — Ad. sk. V. light molt dorsal tracts. No BP. Last fol. 1.1 mm without ad. enl. L.A. 5.2 X 6.0 mm. Crop 2/3 full thistles. FAT 2. Prox. mand. tomium yellow. ō STD. RET'D AD FF: 1° 1-3(R), #2(L); 2° 3-5 BILAT; RT. 3 LAT & LT 4 LAT RECTRICES.
This bird paired with #453

453 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.1 — Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. LT 6.2 X 4.8 mm RT 5.2 X 4.5. Crop empty. FAT 1. Feet sl. darker ō STD. Ad wing & tail.
This bird paired with #452.

454 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 8.9 gm — Ad. sk. Sl. molt all tracts. No BP. Last. fol. 1.5 mm: many of nearly equal size. L.A. 8.4 X 4.8. FAT 1. Prox. mand. tomium yellow. ō STD. RET'D JUV. FF: 1-1 BILAT. AD. TAIL. 1° COVERTS ALL OLD.
This bird paired with #455. Oviduct greatly enlarged. Crop full with 2 types of seeds: ① spherical yellow seeds, & ② smaller gray thistles. Despite low fuel load fat, this animal was very fat, with much lipid stored in the viscera.

455 ♂ Cardinalis psaltria 9.6 gm — Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. LT 5.5 X 5.0 mm RT 5.2 X 5.0. Crop 2/3 full thistles. FAT 1. Tarsi & feet med-dark brown. ō STD. RR: AD 1/3 1-5(L) & 1-4(R). RT 9th 1° gone; 1° COV'TS ALL NEW.
This bird paired with #454. Tail feathers new. This bird beat itself up in cage very quickly.

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio County, Texas. Elevation 3600 ft.

May 24

456 ♀ Cardinalis psaltria 9.4 gm — Ad. sk. Lt. body molt mostly dorsally. Oviduct not enlarged. No BP. No enl. fol. L.A. 4.0 X 3.5 mm. Crop empty. FAT 2. STD. RR: 2-4 (R), 3-4(L). TAIL NEW.
This bird paired with #457.

Tucker, John

1992

Catalogue

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio County Texas

Elevation 3600 ft.

May 24 (cont)

457	Ad. Sk. V. lt. body molt ♂ Cardueliis psaltria 9.1 gm	LT 4.5 x 4.5 mm RT 4.2 x 4.0	crop ≈ single 1 mm white seed FAT 1	MOUTH NOT EXAMINED. LEGS DARK GRAYISH-BROWN 0 STD	AD ♂ 1°s 1-5 BILAT. FRESH JUV. 2°s. 1° COV'TS OLD & #1 BILAT.	This bird paired with # 456.	
458	Ad. Sk. Lt body molt. ♀ Cardueliis psaltria 9.0 gm	oviduct enlarged No BP. Lgst. fol. 1.0 mm L.O. 4.5 x 6.8 mm	crop ≈ 8 1 mm white seeds. FAT 1-2	STD	RET'D: ALL 2° OLD. JUV. TAIL. MOST RT 1°s OUT DUE TO CAGE TRAUMA.	This bird paired with # 459.	
459	Ad. Sk. V. lt. body molt ♂ Cardueliis psaltria 9.7 gm	LT 6.0 x 5.2 mm RT 5.5 x 4.5	crop ≈ 2 1 mm white seeds FAT 0-1	Tarsi dark grayish brown 0 STD	RR: JUV. 1° #9 BILAT; 2°s 1-5 BILAT; 6 OUTER 1° COVERTS.	This bird paired with # 458.	
460	Ad Sk. No body molt ♂ Cardueliis psaltria 9.1 gm	LT 1.5 x 1.5 mm RT 1.5 x 1.2	crop empty FAT 1	STD	NEW AD. ♂ 1°s 1-4 BILAT. & #5(L); #9(R) MISSING. JUV. 2°s RET'D; OUT. 4 1° COVTS OLD. TAIL MOLT.		

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio County, Texas

Elevation 3850 ft.

May 24

461	Ad Sk lt-mod body molt all tracts ♀ Cardueliis psaltria 8.6 gm	BP 16 x 27 mm. Lgst fol 0.8 mm oviduct not enl. L.O. 4.0 x 3.8 mm	crop ≈ 6 1.3 mm white seeds. FAT 0-1	STD	RET'D JUV. ♀ WING & TAIL MOLT PRESENT.		

May 25

462	Ad. Sk. No body molt. ♂ Cardueliis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 3.5 x 3.2 mm RT 3.2 x 3.0	crop empty FAT 1	STD	RR: 4-6(R); 5-6(L) 1° COV'TS ALL OLD. TAIL MOLT.		

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio County, Texas.

Elevation 3600 ft.

May ~~[illegible]~~ 25

463	Ad. Sk. No body molt ♀ Cardueliis psaltria 9.3 gm	Edem. BP 18 x 27 mm 2 mgst. fol. oviduct enl. L.O. 4.2 x 5.5 mm	crop ≈ very small seeds FAT 1	STD	RR: Ad. 1°s 4-9(L) & 4-8 (R) - 9th MISSING, LT OUT. & RT 2 OUT. 1° COV'TS. TAIL MOSTLY OLD.		

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio County, Texas. Elevation 3850 ft.

May 25

464	Ad. Sk. Plumage peak. No body molt. ♀ Cardueliis psaltria 10.5 gm	No BP or ENL. FOL. OVIDUCT NOT ENL. L.O. 3.5 x 4.5 mm	crop empty FAT 2-3	Ad ♂ bill 0 STD	RR: JUV 2-4 BILAT. 9th 1° BILAT. IN SHEATH. NEW 1° COV'TS: OUT. 2(R), PENULTIMATE(L).		
465	Ad. Sk. Lt. body molt ventral tracts only. ♂ Cardueliis psaltria 10.1 gm	LT 5.0 x 4.2 mm RT 4.0 x 3.5	crop empty FAT 2	STD	RR: 0-5(L), 0-4(R)		

Tweit, John

1992

Catalogue

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio Co., Texas

Elevation 3850 ft.

May 25 (con't)

Sk. not oss. — LT <1mm, RT <1mm — Crop empty, FAT 2 — All FF still in sheath. V. heavy body molt all tracts

466 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 9.0gm

Iris dark brown. Maxilla olive, mandible yellowish green; Tarsi light gray-brown, feet & claws progressively lighter gray brown. Soles pale yellowish.

COMP. SKEL. — Sk. oss. Definitive ♂ plumage, No molt. — MIST NET MORTALITY, LT 10.5x8.0 mm, RT 10.0x7.0 — Crop empty, FAT 0 — Iris dark brown. Maxilla dark gray. Mandible bright gray-blue x gray tomium. Tarsi, toes dark gray.

467 ♂ Sturnella neglecta 30.2gm

COMP. SKEL. — Sk. not oss. No active molt. — MIST NET MORTALITY, LT <1mm, RT <1mm — Stomach & few small intact elytra, FAT 0 — Iris dark brown. Max. nail-tip dark gray-brown, rest of bill x beige in unfeat. Prop. gape yellow. Feet & tarsi dark gray.

468 ♂ Catharpes mexicanus 14.1gm

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, Presidio County, Texas

Elevation 3600 ft.

June 11

Ad. Sk. Plumage V. worn. No active molt. — LT 4.8x4.2 mm, RT 4.5x4.0 — Crop & my sunflowers, FAT 1 — Mouth not examined, ō STD — JUV. FF ALL RETAINED.

469 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 8.9gm

Ad. Sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. — No BP & ENL. FOL. Oviduct ll. enl. — Crop empty, FAT 1-2 — Iris ō sepia, Tomia ō STD. — RR: JUV. 1-1(R), 1-2(U); 5th(R) 1° cv't OLD, ELSE NEW. TAIL NEW

470 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 9.0gm L.O. 4.5x5.0 mm

Ad. Sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. — No BP. No ENL. FOL. Oviduct sl. enl. Granular ovary — Crop empty, FAT 3 — STD — Ad ♀ wing & tail

471 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 9.3gm L.O. 2.5x4.5 mm

June 12

Sk. not oss. — LT <1mm, RT <1mm — Few thistles in crop, FAT 1 — Iris ō sepia tone, ō STD — Fresh wing & tail. Lt body molt dorsally, mod. " " ventrally

472 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 9.5gm

Ad. Sk. Lt molt ventral & capital tracts — LT 5.0x4.5 mm, RT 4.5x4.2 — Crop empty, FAT 1 — Mouth not examined, ō STD — 1st Rt. 1° IN SHEATH; all 4 2ds RET'D BIKATS; 1° CV'TS ALL OLD; TAIL NEW.

473 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 9.9gm

Sk. oss. only at occiput. — Heavy body molt. — granular gonad, no BP, L.O. 2.2x1.0 mm — Crop empty, FAT 0 — Tarsi & feet dark gray, ō STD — This bird cooked & viscera rotted in cage. No recording attempted

474 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 8.2gm

Sk. oss. only at occiput — Plumage fresh. No active molt. — granular gonad, No BP. — Crop & few my sunflowers, FAT 1 — STD — Lt 1°s lost due to trauma in cage.

475 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 8.5gm L.O. 1.6x1.1 mm

Ad. Sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. — No BP. Lt. enl. fol. Oviducts not enl. — Crop & my sunflowers, FAT 1 — Iris ō sepia — 9th 1° pilot in sheath all other FF fresh.

476 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 9.2gm L.O. 5.2x4.8

June 14

Sk. not oss. — Mod. body molt ventrally, light other tracts. — granular gonad — Crop full round yellow 0.7 mm seeds, FAT TR — Mouth not examined, ō STD — Fresh FF.

477 ♀ Cardvelis psaltria 8.8gm L.O. 2.0x2.2 mm

Sk. not oss. x occiput — Mod. body molt all tracts — LT <1mm, RT <1mm — Crop & my sunflowers, FAT 2 — Bill all gray x prox. mandible blue-gray, ō STD — Lt. 9th 1° missing, all other FF new, incl. 1° coverts.

478 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 9.6gm

Sk. not oss. — LT <1mm, RT <1mm — Crop empty, FAT 2 — Iris ō sepia tone, ō STD — Fresh FF.

479 ♂ Cardvelis psaltria 9.1gm

Body molt moderate-to-heavy ventrally & light dorsally.

Trockel John

1992

Catalogue

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 16

480	Ad. sk. LT. BODY MOLT ALL TRACTS. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm	LT 5.5 X 5.0 mm RT 4.8 X 4.5	crop 2/3 full my sunflower. FAT 1	STD	RT 8th 1° MISSING. INNER 4 1°s BILAT. NEW, ELSE OLD; INNER 2 1° COV'TS BILAT NEW, ELSE OLD.
481	Ad. sk. Fresh plumage. Inactive molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.5 gm	LT 3.8 x 3.5 mm RT 3.5 X 3.5	crop empty FAT 2	BILL BRIGHT GREENISH X DIST. V2 CULMEN, BLACKISH. MAND. BLUE-GRAY ♂ STD.	RR: JUV. 2-3 BILAT; ELSE FRESH FF.
482	SK. OSS. Only at occiput Lt molt ventral tracts ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	LT <1 mm RT <1 mm	crop full my sunflowers FAT TR	Bill all blue-gray & prno. mand. bluish. ♂ STD	FF all fresh
483	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	LT 6.5 X 5.8 mm RT 6.0 X 5.0	crop full spherical lum. fifis bright yellow seeds FAT 0	STD	RR: JUV. 2-2(R) 3-3(L); ONE OLD RECTRIX (L); NEW 1° COV'TS: OUT. 2(R) & OUT. 3(L).
484	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh - No molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.8 gm	LT 6.0 X 5.0 mm RT 5.5 X 5.0 mm	FAT 1	STD	RR: JUV. 2-4 Bilat; 1° COV'TS ALL OLD. TAIL NEW (ADULT).
485	Ad. sk. V. light molt ventral tracts ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm	LT 6.5 x 4.8 mm RT 4.8 X 4.5	crop 3/4 full tiny white seeds FAT 0-1	STD	RR: JUV. 1-3 Bilat; old 1° COVERTS #5, 7, & 8 BILAT. ONE OLD RECTRIX.
486	Ad. sk. No body molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm	LT 4.2 X 4.0 mm RT 4.2 X 4.0	crop 3/4 full tiny white seeds FAT 0	Dist. ½ sepia tan ♂ STD	WING & TAIL JUV. X RT 1s 1-3 & LT 1°s 1-2; 1° COV'TS 1-2 BILAT; ONE NEW RECTRIX.

June 17

487	Ad. sk. Lt. body molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4 gm	LT 5.8 X 5.0 mm RT 5.2 X 4.5	crop empty FAT 1	DISTAL 2/3 CULMEN BLACK, ♂ BILL BRIGHT GREENISH. ♂ STD.	RR: JUV. 2-3(R), 2-2(L); OLD 1° COV'TS: 1-3 BILAT & #5(R) TAIL NEW
488	Ad. sk. Mod. body molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.2 gm	LT 2.5 X 2.5 mm RT 2.2 X 2.0	crop empty FAT 1	STD	1°s #8 & 9 IN SHEATH BILAT; 2°s #3, 4, & 5 IN SHEATH BILAT; RT 2° #6 RET'D; TAIL NEW (OUTER RECTS STILL SHORT).
489	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No body molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.5 gm	LT 4.8 X 4.2 mm RT 4.2 X 4.0	crop as #483 FAT TR	Tarsi light brown, ♂ STD.	RR: JUV. 2-3(R), 2-2(L); INNER 3 1° COVERTS OLD. TAIL ALL NEW.
490	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No body molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	LT 6.2 X 5.5 mm RT 6.5 X 6.0	crop empty FAT 0	Bill as #481 ♂ STD	RR: AD 1° #2 BILAT; ELSE NEW. RT HALF TAIL LOST IN HOLDING CAGE.

June 19

491	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt ♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.2 gm	LT 4.8 X 4.0 mm RT 4.5 X 3.5	crop empty FAT 0-1	Dist. ½ sepia tarsi med. brown. mouth not examined ♂ STD	RR: JUV. 1-0 BILAT. OLD 1° COVTS 1-2(R) 1-3(L). TAIL NEW.
492	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No active molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 4.2 X 3.8 mm RT 4.2 X 3.5	crop empty FAT 0	mouth not examined ♂ STD	RR: JUV. 1-1 Bilat; Rects all new.
493	Ad. sk. Lt. molt all tracts ♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.6 gm	EO EM. BP. 29 X 16 mm LGST FOL 1.3 mm. OVIDUCT SL. ENL. L.O. 4.5 X 6.5 mm	crop empty FAT 0	Dist. ½ sepia ♂ STD	FF all old X #2 tertial bilat.

BLM land along Cut Creek, 1 mile E. of Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 14, 1991

494	Ad. sk. Heavy ventral body molt mod. dorsal body molt. ♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm	LT 3.5 X 3.2 mm RT 3.0 X 3.0	crop empty FAT 1-2	Legs & feet med. brownish gray ♂ STD.	ALL BUT ONE LT 1° (IN SHEATH) MISSING AS ARE RT 1°s #5 & 8. RT #6 & 7 IN SHEATH. RT TAIL IN MOLT.

This bird did yeoman service as a finder bird before dying June 20, 1992. It was captured as an SY male & RR: JUV 2-4 Bilat. Remained Green-backed after molt into ASY plumage.

Texas, Jeff
1992

Catalogue

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park
Jeff Davis Co, Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 20

	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No molt		No BP. Oviducts small	crop empty		RR: 1-0 (R); all rems new.
495	♀ Cardualis psaltria 9.0 gm	L.O. 4.2 x 4.8 mm		FAT 2	STD	
	Paired with #496. Largest follicle 1.3 mm (fairly large).					
	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh.	LT 6.0 x 5.0 mm		crop empty	Bill ♂ sepia tone	RR: JUV 2-4 (Rt) / 2-2 (L) (#1 AD) ♂ & OUT. 2 (L). OUT. 2 1° COVT. NEW BILAT, ALSO INNERMOST LT. ELSE OLD. NEW TAIL
496	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.5 gm	RT 5.0 x 4.8		FAT	♂ STD	
	Paired c̄ #495. Very light molt capital tract.					
	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. Lt. molt capital tract.	LT 4.8 x 4.0		crop c̄ mix of dull yellow, 1 mm seeds & white paste.	mouth not examined	RR: JUV. 3-3 Bilat; New 1° cov'ts; Penultimate Rt, OUT. 3 Lt. Tail new.
497	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.6 gm	RT 4.0 x 4.0		FAT 2	♂ STD	
	Sk. not oss. Heavy molt all tracts.	LT < 1 mm		crop empty	Bill all dark gray	Fresh FF.
498	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.2 gm	RT < 1 mm		FAT 3	♂ STD	

June 21

	Sk. oss. & few scattered 1 mm windows. No body molt.			crop full, white & red 1 mm seeds		RR: 2-3 Bilat. 1° cov'ts all old.
499	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 5.0 x 4.5 mm RT 5.0 x 4.5		FAT 1	STD	
	Sk. oss. & few scattered 1 mm windows. No body molt.	LT 5.5 x 4.5 mm		crop full - mix of white & yellow seeds		RR: JUV 1-3 Bilat. ad. tail.
500	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.7 gm	RT 5.0 x 4.2		FAT 1-2	STD	
	This bird paired with #501					
	Sk. oss. No body molt.		No BP No EML. FOL.	crop full 1 mm yellow seeds. few white seeds.		RR: 2-2 Bilat. ad. tail.
501	♀ Cardualis psaltria 9.0 gm	L.O. 3.0 x 3.8 mm		FAT 2	STD	
	This bird paired with #500.					
	Ad sk		No BP. Oviducts not enl. Light. fol. 0.5 mm	crop 1/2 full 1.0 x 8.2 mm yellow seeds.		
502	♀ Cardualis psaltria 9.9 gm	L.O. 4.0 x 4.0 mm		FAT 2-3	STD	

This bird is in extreme molt. Body molt is heavy in all tracts. Tail molt is heavy. Wing coverts are coming in. Primaries #1-4 are in bilaterally, as is #5 Rt. #5 Lt. is nearly in. #6 is coming in bilat; #7 is missing bilaterally. #8 & #9 are old bilaterally. All secondaries on Rt are old, but outer 2 on left are being replaced. Longest tertial is coming in bilaterally. Primary coverts are new except for outermost Rt and 2 outermost on the left.

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 2 miles E and 3 miles N. of Chaffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino National Forest, San Bernardino County, California. Elevation 2800 ft.

June 26

	Lt body molt				Sex c̄ plumage ad ♂ wing
503	♂ Cardualis psaltria 8.8 gm		FAT 1	STD	
					Sex c̄ plumage
504	♂ Cardualis psaltria 9.4 gm		FAT 0	STD	RR: 2-2 bilat.
				legs dark brown	Sex c̄ plumage
505	♀ Cardualis psaltria 9.3 gm		FAT 1	♂ STD	RR: 2-1 (R) 2-0 (L)

Trocant, John

1992

Catalogue

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 2 miles E and 3 miles N. of Claffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino National Forest, San Bernardino Co., California Elevation 2800 ft.

June 26 (Cont'd)

506	? Carduelis psaltria 9.1 gm plumage fresh	FAT 1	STD		
507	? Carduelis psaltria 8.4 gm v. light molt ventral tracts	FAT 0-1	STD		
508	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm plumage fresh.	FAT 0	iris ⅓ sepia, legs v. dark brown ⅓ STD		ad ♂ wing ⅔ RR 3-3 filed.
509	? Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm	FAT 1	STD		

June 27

510	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm plumage fresh	FAT 1	STD		ad ♀ wing
511	? Carduelis psaltria 9.7 gm plumage fresh.	FAT 2	STD		
512	? Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm lt-mod body molt.	FAT 0-1	STD		
513	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.6 gm	FAT 0	STD		RR: 1-3 filed
514	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm light body molt nonedem. BP. 27 x 16.5 mm	FAT 1	STD		RR: 2-2(R), 2-3(L)
515	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.3 gm plumage fresh	FAT 1-2	legs v. dark brown ⅓ STD		FF old
516	? Carduelis psaltria 8.4 gm plumage fresh	FAT 1	STD		
517	? Carduelis psaltria 8.8 gm plumage fresh	FAT 1	STD		few mites in feathers
518	? Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm plumage fresh.	FAT 1-2	STD		
519	? Carduelis psaltria 9.3 gm	FAT 1	iris ⅓ sepia, ⅓ STD		few mites in feathers

June 28

520	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.7 gm	FAT 1	STD		RR: none
521	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.7 gm light molt ventral tracts	FAT 0	STD		RR: 2-2 filed
522	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	FAT 1	STD		RR: 2-2(R), 2-1(L)

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta County, California Elevation 500 ft

June 29

523	5K 0SS. V. light body molt ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.3 gm	BP 16 x 27 mm. L gset for 12 mm soulled egg in oviduct. L.O. 5.5 x 7.5 mm	crop ⅔ full white seeds. FAT 2	iris ⅓ sepia ⅓ STD	old FF.
524	5K 0SS. no body molt ♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm	oviduct sl. enl. BP. 19 x 29 mm L.O. 5.2 x 4.0 mm	crop 1/3 full tiny white seeds. FAT 1	mouth not examined ⅓ STD	RR: Ad 1's 6-9 filed.

Trout, Jr.

1992

Catalogue

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta Co., California. Elevation 500 ft.

June 29 (Cont)

	Sk. ass. X 1mm Lt. parietal window	No body molt.	L.T. 4.5x4.0	crop 1/2 full white seeds		RR: 3-4 bilat Rt. 2nd 2°, which is new. One new rectrix.
525	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm		RT. 4.0x3.0	FAT 0-1	STD	
	Sk. ass. X bilat 2x2mm frontal window	No body molt	HYPOPLASTIC RT. PECTORALIS MUSCLE. LT 4.5x3.5mm	crop 1/3 full white seeds		RR: 4-4 bilat.
526	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.5gm		RT 4.5x4.0	FAT 0-1	STD	
527	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2gm		BP. 17x28mm;	FAT 1-2	STD	aged by plumage RR FF
528	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm			FAT 1-2	iris ♂ sepia egg med. brown ♀ STD	aged by plumage RR: 2-4(R), 2-3(L)
529	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.6gm			FAT 0-1	STD	aged by plumage RR: none
530	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9gm		BP. 17x27mm; laid egg in holding cage.	FAT 1	STD	aged by plumage RR: 2-2 bilat
531	♀ Carduelis psaltria 8.7gm			FAT 1	STD	aged by plumage RR ♀ wing.

BLM land along Cub Creek, 1 mile E. of Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co, Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 14, 1991

	Ad. sk. Plumage fresh. No body molt.		LT 5.0x4.5	crop empty		AD WING & TAIL. NEW ♂ COMING IN. LT 1° LOST DUE TO NOT TRAUMA, IN SHEATH, AS IS ONE RECTRIX.
532	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm		RT 4.5x4.0	FAT 3	STD	

This bird was captured as ASY male c̄ black color 75% black, increasing to 90% black p̄ completion of molt. Note, then, that after this year's pre-alternate molt, it got less black.

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy County, New Mexico. Elev. 3650 ft.

July 8

	Sk. ass.	No molt	LT 9.2x7.5mm	STOM. & CNITINGUS FRAGMENTS & 3 SM. GREEN CATERPILLARS.		IRIS BRIGHT RED. MOUTH LIVING PINK. BILL GRAY (MAX. SL. DARKER) LEGS & FEET SL. BLUISH GRAY; CLAWS SAME c̄ DUSKY TIPS. SONG TAPED.
533	♂ Vireo flavoviridis 17.4gm		RT 7.5x6.5	FAT 1		
	Sk. ass. X 4.0x3mm WINDOW Lt. occipito-parietal area	MOD. BODY MOLT ALL TRACTS	LT 4.0x3.5mm	crop empty		10 & 6 80% BILAT. 2° ALL OLD ON Lt. ONLY 6 NEW ON Rt.; MED. COVTS, ALULA & TAIL ALL OLD.
534	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm		RT 3.5x3.0	FAT 1	STD	
	SK ASS X 1mm RT FRONTAL WINDOW.	V. LT. body MOLT.	OLD FRACTURE RT INTERTARSAL JOINT. LT 4.0x3.5mm	crop empty		
535	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.1gm		RT 4.2x3.8	FAT 0-1	STD	ad ♂ wing & tail
536	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.4gm			FAT 1	STD	ad ♂ wing & tail
537	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6gm			FAT 1	STD	ad ♂ wing & tail

Trickett, John

1992

Catalogue

Page Springs, on the Blitzen River, Harney County, Oregon. Elev. 4235 ft.

July 23

	SK. OSS. LIGHT-MOD. BODY MOLT		crop ≈ few white seeds.			Ad. ♂ wing & tail
538	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm	LT < 1 mm RT < 1 mm	FAT 1	STD		
	SK. OSS. only at occiput & parietal midline	LIGHT BODY MOLT.	crop ≈ few white seeds.	mouth not examined		fresh wings & tail
539	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	L.O. 1.5 x 2.5 mm	FAT 2	ō STD		
	SK. OSS.	V. LIGHT MOLT DORSAL TRACTS	crop empty			old ad. ♂ wings & tail; only 3°s new.
540	♂ Carduelis psaltria 10.2 gm	LT 1.0 x 1.0 mm RT 1.2 x 1.2	FAT 2	STD		
	SK. 1/2 OSS.	V. HEAVY BODY MOLT ESP. HINDCROWN & NAPE	Zyg. f. for 0.8 mm No BP. Oviducts not enl.	crop empty		fresh wings & tail.
541	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.1 gm	L.O. 1.8 x 3.0 mm	FAT	STD		

Anterior parietal, frontal and postorbital areas are not ossified.

Little Colorado River, 6.5 miles W. of Holbrook, Navajo Co., Arizona. Elevation 5050 ft.

July 27

	Ad. SK. No body molt.		crop full thistles.			Ad. wing & tail
542	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.2 gm	LT 5.5 x 4.8 mm RT 5.0 x 4.5	FAT 1	STD		
	ad. SK. No body molt	LT 4.5 x 3.8 mm	crop full thistles	legs & toes dark brown		RR: 1-0 ♂ feath. Ad. tail 1° covt's new
543	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.7	RT 5.2 x 4.5	FAT	ō STD		

July 28

	SK. ast. OSS.	Heavy body molt all tracts	gonads ground No BP.	crop full thistles	Zyg. & toes dark brown. iris & pupil	RT Greater 2° covts and 3°s filed in molt.
544	♀ Carduelis psaltria 10.1 gm	L.O. 1.2 mm x 0.5 mm	FAT 3	ō STD		
	Ad. SK.	Sc. capital tracts molt ō no body molt.	LT 5.8 x 5.0 mm	crop 1/3 full thistles	iris & pupil tone, ō	ad. wing & tail.
545	♂ Carduelis psaltria 8.9 gm	RT 5.0 x 4.2	FAT TR	STD		vascular & small ♀ gonads
	SK. OSS	No body molt	LT 5.0 x 4.0 mm	crop full thistles	mouth not examined,	ad ♂ wing & tail.
546	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.8 gm	RT 4.5 x 4.0	FAT 2	ō STD		
	SK. OSS.	Mod-heavy body molt all tracts.	Oviducts not enl. BP 1.9 x 2.8 mm, Zyg. f. for 0.8 mm	crop empty		1° #1 20% in RT, 40% in LT.; tail in molt.
547	♀ Carduelis psaltria 9.6 gm	L.O. 1.8 x 2.8 mm	FAT 2	STD		

July 29

	Ad. SK.	Lt body molt.	OLD RT. INTERTARSAL JOINT FRACTURE LT 2.0 x 2.0 mm	crop empty	iris & pupil	RR: JUV 1° #1 (filed). 3rd RT & 2nd LT 1° covt's old, also new.
548	♂ Carduelis psaltria 9.0 gm	RT 2.0 x 1.5	FAT 1	mouth not examined ō STD		

Done Road, near intersection with Pony Brown Road, 2½ miles S. of Michigan Bar, Sacramento Co., California. Elevation 200 feet.

May 8, 1991

549	♂ Carduelis psaltria		legs & feet dark brown; iris not seen nor mouth.	collected by TIM MANOLIS

found in mummified state, given me in June, 1992.

TROCHET, J.

1992

Catalogue

Blackrock Bosque, 1 mile E. of Blackrock, Zuni Indian Reservation

McKinley Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6425 feet.

August 14, 1991

SK. OSS. HEAVY BODY MOLT ALL TRATS

550 ♂ Protonotaria citrea 14.8gm LT 1.0x1.0 mm RT 1.0x1.0 mm FAT 2 SINGING FULL SONG

J. A. Trochet
1991-1992

Journal
1991

Nevada: Elko, White Pine Cos.
Utah: Uinta Co.
Colorado: Gunnison, Fremont Cos.
New Mexico: San Miguel, Mora,
McKinley, San Juan Cos.
Utah: Washington Co.
Calif: Kern, San Bernadino Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa, Cochise Cos.
New Mexico: Eddy, Grant Cos.

Tricart, John
1991

Journal

Ruby Mountains and Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko and White Pine Counties, Nevada.

June 8, 1991 This day was mostly one of eastward travel. I left Sacramento, California shortly after midnight and arrived in Elko, Nevada about 07:30, having travelled via Interstate Highway 80 between the two. Having seen the Nevada Wildlife Department office in Elko, I decided to wait until it opened at 08:30 to ask about potential field sites, and did so after breakfast at a local diner. I spoke to Bob ——, who mentioned having seen the application for a state-wide collecting permit I submitted. He had two possible sites in mind for collecting goldfinches in the Elko area. These were along Lamoille Creek near the village of Lamoille, and along the S. Fork Humboldt River on the Te-moak Indian Reservation. After I left, I headed for Lamoille. The deciduous vegetation along the creek in the vicinity of town and around the habitations of the villagers seemed to hold no lesser goldfinches. I then (09:30) ascended the canyon of Lamoille Creek to the end of the road in the Ruby Mountains Scenic Area, stopping several times to listen for goldfinches over the brushy deciduous vegetation covering the slopes above the creek. I heard none. At the end of the road, one found water once again. A more or less linear array of conifer clumps were scattered along the drainage. Snow nearly completely covered the slopes except for sizable rock & brush exposures on the southeast facing slope. I made an oval shaped loop up this slope & up the drainage, and then back to the car. Highlights were Hemalayan Sawcreek (huge!) and, truly at my feet, Black Rosy Finch. Back at the car (11:30), I grabbed a snack and headed back to Elko, but turned south on Nevada Hwy 46 toward the Te-moak Indian Reservation. Following an

Ruby Mountains and Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko & White Pine Counties, Nevada

June 9 (cont) unpaved road paralleling the Humboldt River, I checked the cottonwoods without success for sign of Lesser Goldfinch. I talked to two residents I encountered. Neither was familiar with the bird, though one recognized the picture of American Goldfinch. After a couple fruitless hours of looking for goldfinches, I returned to Highway 46 and continued south. Three miles south of Jiggs, the road diverges and I went left to cross the Ruby Mountains over Harrison Pass. The unpaved road was snow-free, and the slopes above the road far more snow-free than upper Lamoille Creek. At the T-intersection at the road's end, I turned south to Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge. Water levels appeared quite low. I toured the refuge for a couple hours (15:45 – 18:00), stopping at the headquarters but finding it closed. I returned to Interstate 80 via the scenic road along the east side of the Rubies to Highway 229 to US Highway 93 to Wells, Nevada & the interstate. I write these notes at a rest area east of Wendover, Utah, still heading east on I-80.

The weather today was splendid. Temperatures ranged from ~45°F this a.m. in Elko to 45-50° at road's end in the Ruby Mountain Scenic Area, to 65° at Te-Moak I.R. and 80° at Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge. The wind came up around 10:00 in the scenic area, a brisk down-canyon wind of 15 mph, and continued for the remainder of this cloudless day, being more variable in direction in the lower elevations.

No birds were seen today. Mammals seen were ground squirrel sp., muskrat and deer track.

Lucas, John

1991

Journal

Ruby Mountains and Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko & White Pine Counties, Nevada

June 9 (cont'd) Birds: Pied-billed Grebe
Double-crested Cormorant
Great Blue Heron
Snowy Egret
Black-crowned Night Heron
Canada Goose
Mallard
Gadwall
Green-winged Teal
American Wigeon
Northern Shoveler
Redhead
Canvasback
Lesser Scaup
Ruddy Duck
Turkey Vulture
Northern Harrier
Red-tailed Hawk
Prairie Falcon
American Kestrel
Himalayan Snowcock
Virginia Rail
American Coot
Killdeer
Long-billed Curlew
Willet
Forster's Tern
Black Tern
Mourning Dove
Common Nighthawk
White-throated Swift
Broad-tailed Hummingbird
Northern (R-S) Flicker
Lewis' Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
Western Kingbird
Say's Phoebe
Dusky Flycatcher
Western Wood Pewee
Horned Lark
Violet-green Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Barn Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Black-billed Magpie
Common Raven
American Crow
Clark's Nutcracker
Mountain Chickadee
House Wren
Marsh Wren
Rock Wren

Tucker, John
1991

Journal

Ruby Mountains and Ruby Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Elko & White Pine Counties, Nevada

June 9th (cont'd)

Sage Thrasher
American Robin
Townsend's Solitaire
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Water Pipit
Loggerhead Shrike
European Starling
Solitary (Plumbeous) Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Yellow-rumped Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Wilson's Warbler
Western Meadowlark
Yellow-headed Blackbird
Red-winged Blackbird
Bullock's Oriole
Brewer's Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Lazuli Bunting
Green-tailed Towhee
Savannah Sparrow
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Dark-eyed Junco (Oregon)
Chipping Sparrow
Brewer's Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Song Sparrow
Black Rosy Finch
House Finch
Cassin's Finch

Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta County, Utah. Elevation 5000 feet.

June 10 Today was another day devoted largely to travel and finding a good field locality. On the recommendation of Prof. William Belle, I drove to the Vernal-Jensen area of northeastern Utah, said by him to have a good population of Lesser Goldfinch.

Frear, John
1991

Journal

Clew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 feet

June 10 (cont) I traveled east on Interstate 80, turning off at US Highway 40, about 20 miles east of Salt Lake City. (I-80 replaced Hwy 40 farther west). I followed Hwy 40 east to Vernal, arriving 10:40. I asked at a couple restaurants for leads to local ranchers who might allow me to work on their property. One lead was offered, but permission denied. In Jensen, reached via Hwy 40 from Vernal, I had three leads offered me at a small restaurant by a local postmaster. Two of these resulted in refusals and the third was a "possible," but the person with the authority to grant permission was not available, and he wouldn't be back for two days. But, encouragingly, there are lesser Goldfinches about. Cottonwoods lining creeks and ditches about Jensen appear to support very decent numbers. About 15:30 I decided to visit Dinosaur National Monument, the Quarry of great fame being only 5-6 miles from Jensen. There, I asked also for permission to work on the National Monument. This was not denied outright, but I would have to apply on a form provided, and the decision would take some time (weeks). The quarry itself was impressive. I had decided to spend the night on the national monument campground on the Green River. After setting out my tent and equipment beneath the large cottonwoods shading my campsite, I noticed a ranch across the river. Just after supper, I drove across the bridge just downstream and paid a call at the Clew Ranch headquarters. There I spoke first to a young mother of at least 3. She said that the men were away moving

Tracy, John
1991

Journal

Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 10 (cont'd) livestock. She said I was welcome to explore the grounds of the ranch until the person with authority to grant permission returned. That would be Mrs. Laura Chew, the matriarch. So from 18:45 – 19:45, I walked the shelter belts of cottonwood & lombardy poplar & checked the thickets of grape, virginia creeper, poison ivy and coyote willow north & northwest of the dwellings. There were some 10-12 Lesser Goldfinches and a like number of American Goldfinches present. Just before sundown, Mrs. Chew returned home & invited me into her home. After a brief conversation, she allowed me to work on her ranch. I returned to my campsite across the river, to write up these notes, then to sleep.

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 I broke camp and left the NPS Green River Campground before sunrise in order to more completely survey the Chew Ranch for nest sites, spending most of the morning walking the wooded areas of the Ranch south of Cub Creek, excluding the gated area to the south. The majority of large linear cottonwood groves had almost no understory, and were located for the most part on the margins of hay and grain fields. Despite the suboptimal habitat, Lesser Goldfinches were fairly numerous, particularly in the row of large cottonwoods along the Green River west-south-west of the ranchers' dwellings. After lunch, I drove the road beyond the turnoff to the ranch. This road shortly changed its northerly course to east, paralleling the course of Cub Creek. For a

TRACHET, JOHN
1991

Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co, Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont) few miles This road traverses BLM land between Chew Ranch and NPS lands of Dinosaur National Monument. Riparian groves along Cut Creek have 30+ lesser Goldfinches in a cursory survey, mostly in the cottonwood-dominated woodlands in the lower and mid portions of the Cut Creek Drainage. In these areas rocky outcrops frequently had large pictographs and/or petroglyphs, visible at distances of 20-50 yards from the road. The upper portion of the creek was dominated by box elders and had few lesser goldfinches and far more American goldfinches. I put up no nets today, but I got good ideas for their placement, both on the ranch proper, and on the BLM land.

Weather June 11: dawn was clear, windless, about 55°F. 5-10 mph W. winds began about 09:30, steady until about 14:00, when thunderheads appeared to the NW. At this time winds increased to 15 mph, c̄ higher gusts. The thunderheads passed over from 15:15 to 18:45. Rain fell briefly and moderately in two periods: 15:55 - 16:10 and 17:15 - 17:25. High Temp. (a thunderclouds) was about 85°F. Clouds persisted in lesser extent until about half an hour before sunset, but sun set in a sky as cloudless as at dawn!

On June 12, I set up nets near the house trailers west of Mrs. Laura Chew's house. One site was beneath the cottonwood-broadleaf poplar shelter belt near a tangle of mixed grass/brush/wildflowers on one side and the garden plot of the trailer (one net) and an enormous hay

Jerome, Jim
1991

Crew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 field (two nets) on the other, dividing the Judas birds one to
(con't) each net, as usual. The shaded nets were visited every half hour, or so. The nets were open from 06:15 to 14:30, but I caught no goldfinches; only a few starlings & cowbirds, and lots of house finches. In the late afternoon, I moved the nets and the Judas birds to the cottonwoods along the Green River west-southwest of Ranch headquarters, with 2 nets open from 15:45 to 18:30, again w/ success. I spent the last hour or so of daylight, with nets and birds put away in the car, walking lower Cut Creek, where it traverses the Crew property. Since goldfinches flew over my nets today, I selected net sites for tomorrow that provided perches at net height. At dusk, and finishing in the dark, I set up 3 nets in young cottonwoods and willows (2 nets) and against the green backdrop of a nearly vertical thicket of a blackberry tangle down a slope.

Weather June 12: dawn clear, windless, 55°F. Light, variable winds w/ 10:00 until 12:00, then gusty 10-15 mph w/ thds. It became entirely overcast by 14:45. Thunderclaps sent me to cover at 16:50. No rain today, but humidity high (sticky) all afternoon & early evening. High temp today about 80°F.

June 13, I was awaken at 05:05 by light rain. Despite solid, dark cloud cover, a few birds were singing, mostly Am. robins. I opened my nets by 05:20, but these were made too visible owing to sun and/or wind after 10:00. I then moved the nets to more wind-sheltered sites along Cut Creek

Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta County, Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont'd) on BLM land about 1 mile E. of the Chew Ranch. These nets were open from 11:10 to 14:00. At least I enjoyed some net success, both on the ranch (bew Cardinalis) and on BLM land (Ch other spp.). Owing to threatening weather, collecting activities were suspended after 14:00. I spent most of the afternoon and early evening putting up birds in the shelter of my tent. But before doing this I briefly explored the south part of the Chew Ranch, known to the Chews as the sheep shearing corral area. This is the gated area mentioned earlier. This area showed both promise ~~and~~ for goldfinches, and less intrusive presence as a campsite on the ranch. I therefore moved camp to a flat bluff above the drainage (no name given to the creek by the Chews).

Weather June 13: Solid overcast, high humidity, light breeze, 65°F, at dawn. Partly cloudy 08:45–12:30, otherwise cloudy all day. Highest Temp ~85°F Very darkly cloudy to 14:00, with intermittent showers 15:30–16:15; Heavy downpour, lightning very close, and flash flood at 18:15–19:00. V. Windy today from 10:30–19:15, wind out of S. 10-15 mph, until thunderstorms, when wind direction more variable and to 25 mph or more.

On June 14, I continued to work the nets on BLM land about 1 mile E. of Chew Ranch property, the same placements as yesterday. Among many birds caught were a few lesser goldfinches. When the weather deteriorated about midday, I closed the nets and returned to camp. Eating lunch while walking, I explored the sheep shearing

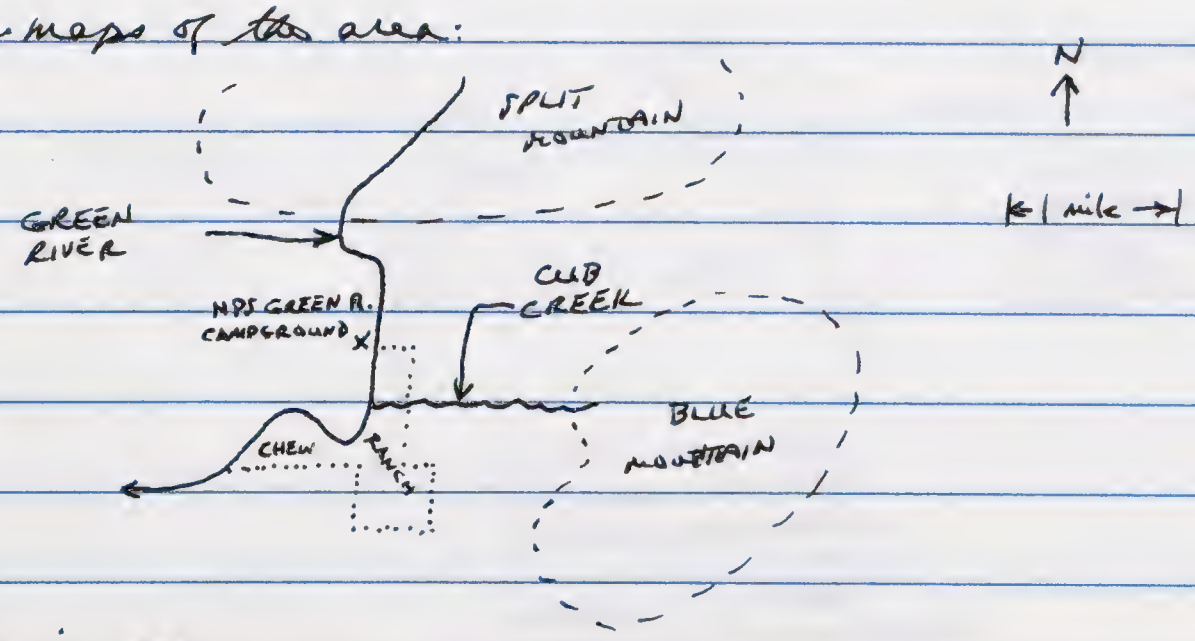
Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 area and continued walking upslope to the S. onto BLM P-J
(cont) dominated land. The walk was curtailed owing to weather. I spent the afternoon and early evening huddled against the foul weather in my tent.

Weather June 14: dawn was cloudy, humid, 60°F, with light NW breeze. Skies cleared to partly cloudy from 08:30 – 11:30, then became solidly cloudy again. From 13:30 – 14:45, winds were intermittently extremely high, associated c̄ lightning & thunder but little precipitation. At 14:10, these winds pulled up off the ground three corners of my tent (pulling the stakes from the ground) with my equipment and me inside, pivoting the tent 140-145 degrees clockwise and dragging the whole thing 15 feet to the east! The tent & contents suffered only minor injury. Skies cleared to partly cloudy at 17:15. After 18:15 it was mostly clear, with winds abating entirely around sunset. Temps 60° at sunrise, rising to 80°F around 11:45, falling to about 65°F during thunder showers.

Crude maps of the area:



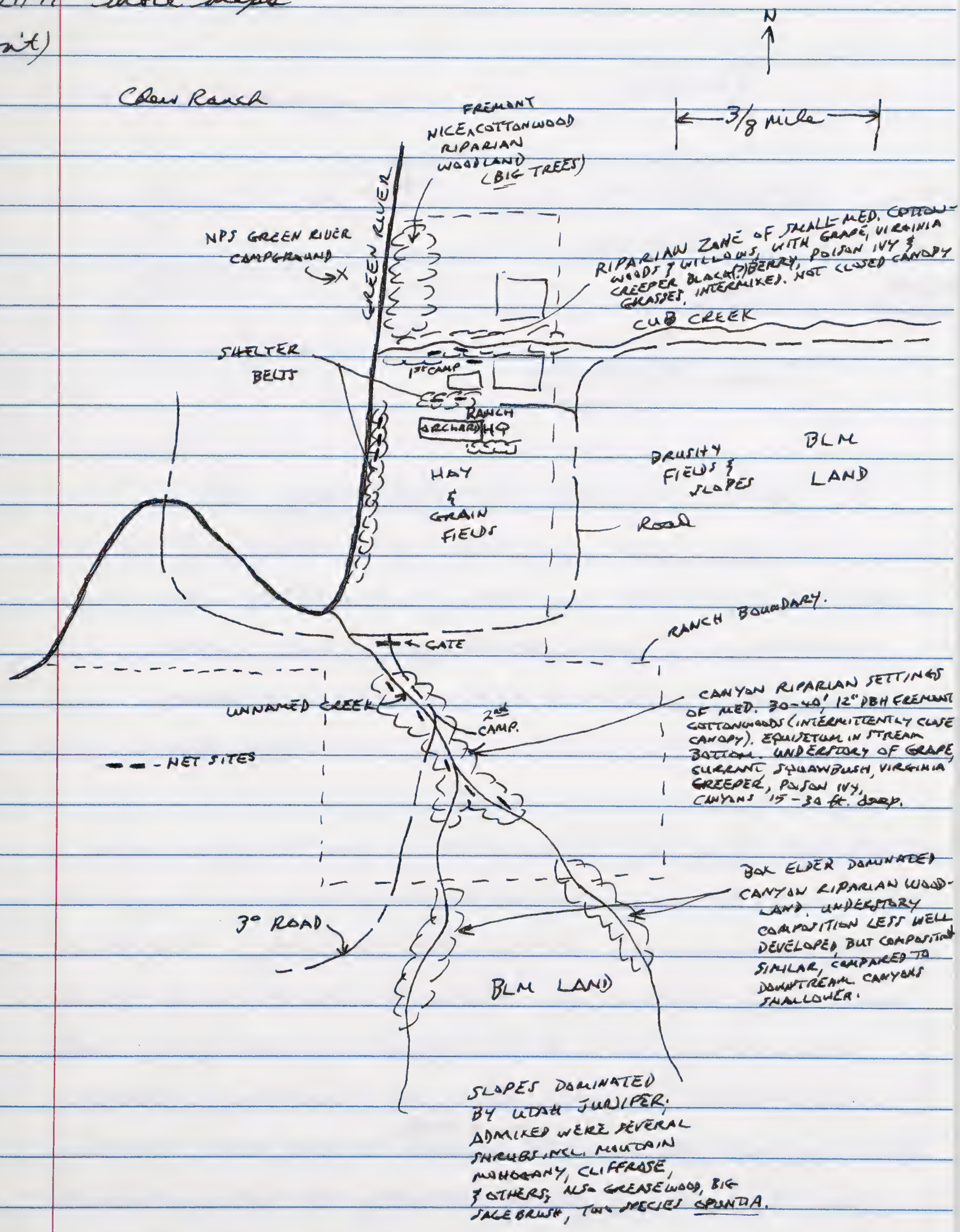
overview map

Tricaud, John
1991

Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 more maps
(Con't)



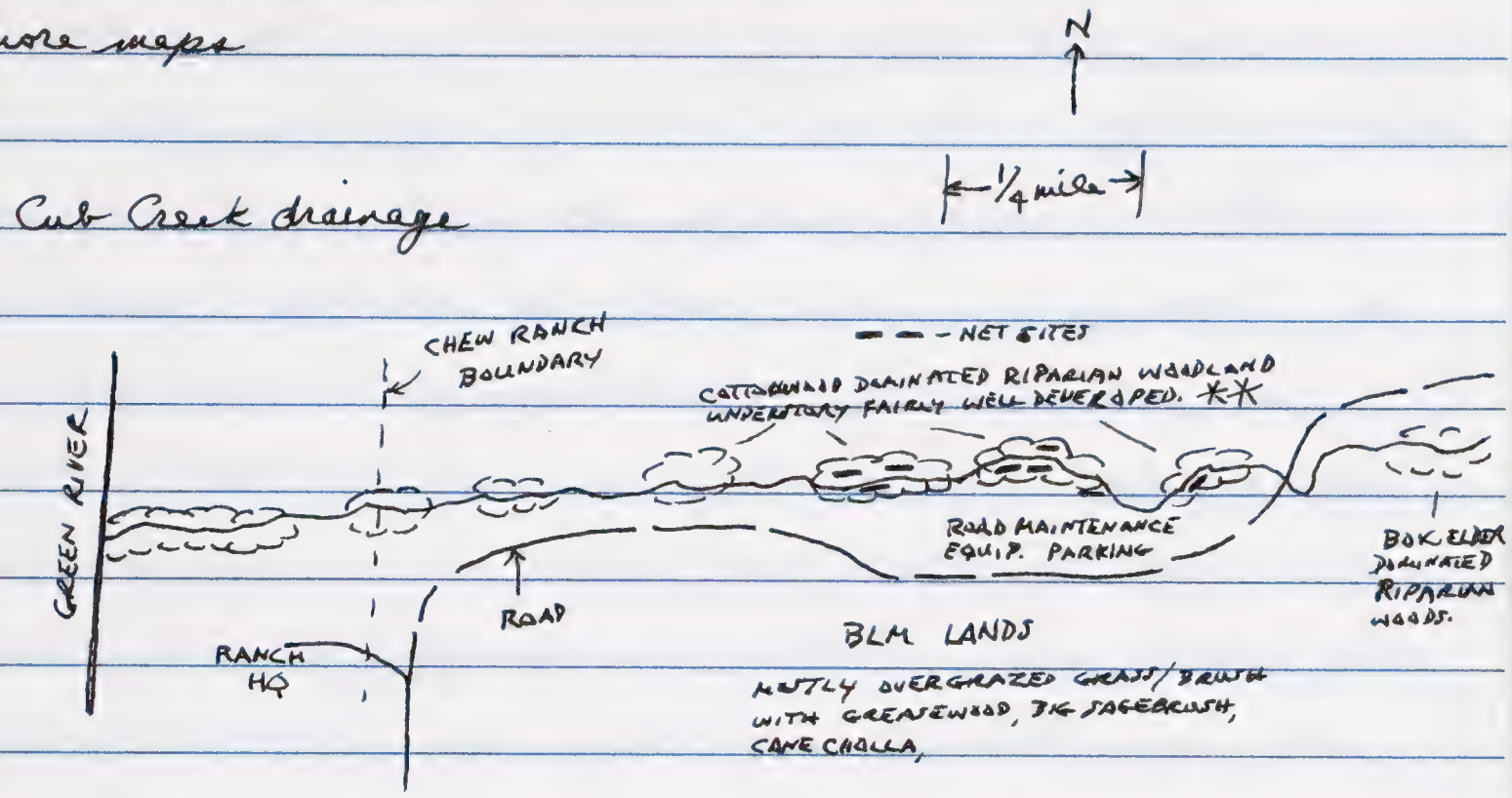
Tucker, John

1991

Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont) more maps



** UNDERSTORY PLANTS INCLUDE COYOTE WILLOW, SQUAWBUSH, GRAPE, GRASSES.

Creek gradient very mild. In most places, rocky uplands were 50-75 yards from the creek, but rocks and earthen slopes closely confined the stream in several places. Rocks close to creek often decorated w/ pictographs or petroglyphs.

I awoke June 15 and moved two nets (opening the other two) to the canyon riparian woodland along the unnamed creek in the south part of the ranch. I spent the morning running from net to net to net to net. Highlight was finding a trio of adult lesser goldfinches at a net (5A); these were subsequently collected by shotgun. The mist nets were relatively ~~up~~ unproductive, with but 2 ~~lesser~~ American taken on the ranch property. I spent most of the afternoon putting up the birds (nets closed from 12:00-18:00). I then moved one BLM land net to

Crocker, John

1991

Journal

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont) near the confluence of Cub Creek and Green River, near my first camp site. Just before dark, this net became filled with birds: mourning doves, a black-chinned hummingbird, ash-throated flycatchers, cliff & barn swallows, house wrens, robins, a warbling vireo, a Virginia's warbler, yellow warblers, an American redstart, several lazuli buntings, chipping sparrows, cowbirds, many house finches, and house sparrows. How quickly the net filled, I can only guess, since I was gone 40 minutes closing up my nets in the south part of the ranch. I was still pulling birds out of the net at 22:30! I finished, then went to town to get ice for my cooler.

June 15 weather: much colder this morning, about 40-45°F at sunrise. There was a light breeze ~2 mph out of NE; there were a few clouds on W. Rim at dawn. Clouds disappeared quickly and stayed away until late afternoon. Much less humid today. High temp about 80°F. Steadier NE winds ~5 mph began 12:30. One thundercloud passed close to S at 18:40 associated w/ gusty 15-25 mph winds for about 25 min. Clear skies, light breezes at sunset.

June 16 I ~~op~~ slept in this a.m., getting up at 6:30, opening the south nets, then moving the now sun-exposed net from the upper part of the ranch back to BLM land, so that I spent the morning checking nets there and in the canyon riparian setting of the southern portion of the Chew Ranch. I netted lesser goldfinches at long intervals during the day. In mid-afternoon, I saw a ♀ lesser goldfinch fly to a nest

Journal

Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta County Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont'd) in a greasewood plant in an overgrazed field. This nest was visited by two males. All three were netted by late afternoon. (See S.A.). Many of today's captures were not readily vocal, and were kept alive for recording & specimen preparation on June 17. I took down the BLM land-nets at dusk.

The weather June 16 was nearly a carbon copy of yesterday's, lacking only the close-passing late afternoon thunderhead. Temps 45-80°F, light NE winds, low humidity, very few clouds all day.

I stayed in camp all day June 17, inside the tent most of the day. I spent a little time recording goldfinches, looking at mist nets from my camp (closing up both at 09:30), and emerging periodically to stretch my limbs. Inside the tent I put up goldfinches captured on BLM land yesterday & wrote up notes for this field site. The weather observations made today were less detailed: it was mostly clear, temp. range 50-85°F, low humidity, winds light. I departed from camp after bathing in the creek below and thanking Mrs. Chew, leaving at 20:30.

Species list for Chew Ranch & vicinity:

amphibian: *Bufo* sp

reptiles: *Sceloporus undulatus*

Uta stansburiana

Cnemidophorus sp

Thamnophis sp — DOR

Pituophis melanoleucos

TROCHET, J
1991

Journal

Crow Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (con't)

Birds: Great Blue Heron
Canada goose
Mallard
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Chukar
Killdeer
Common Snipe
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
W. Screech-owl
Great Horned Owl
Common Nighthawk
Poorwill
White-throated Swift
Black-chinned Hummingbird
W. Wood-pewee
Gray Flycatcher
Say's Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
W. Kingbird
Violet-green Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Black-billed Magpie
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
House Wren
Plain titmouse
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
American Robin
European Starling
Gray Vireo
Plumbeous Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Virginia's Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Black-throated Gray W.
American Redstart
Wilson's Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Rufous-sided Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Western Meadowlark
Brewer's Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird

Trocki, J
1991

Journal

Chew Ranch adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 11-17 (cont'd)

Bullocks Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
American Goldfinch
House Sparrow

mammals: small-med. bat sp.
large bat sp.
Mephitis mephitis — DOR
Urocyon
Canis latrans
mouse sp
golden-mantled ground squirrel
Lepus californicus
Sylvilagus sp.
Odocoileus hemionus
Equus
Bos

Never Sink, Curecanti National Recreation Area, approx 12 miles N. Gunnison, Gunnison Co., Colorado. Elevation ft.

June 18 This day was mainly a scouting day en route to Cañon City, Colorado. Over night, with a couple stops for naps, I travelled from the Chew Ranch back to Jensen, Utah, then east on U.S. Highway 40 to Dinosaur, Colorado, where I turned south on Colorado State Highway 64, passing through Rangely (nearly hitting a pronghorn standing on the road edge a few miles past Rangely) to pick up State Highway 13 south to Interstate Highway 70 at Rifle, then proceeding west to Grand Junction, then southeast on US 50 to Montrose and just beyond. Then (at dawn) I turned N. on State Highway 347 for a brief look at the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Monument (where among many others I saw to active nests of Peregrines). Once back to Highway 50, I turned east, passing through ~~Gunnison~~ Cimarron to Never

Forest, J.
1991

Journal

Never Sink, Curecanti National Recreation Area, approx 12 miles W. Gunnison, Gunnison Co., Colorado. Elevation ft.

June 18 (cont'd) Sink, Curecanti National Recreation Area, along the Gunnison River. This is a cottonwood-alder-dominated riparian setting with much of the understory provided by young trees of the dominant species. There was a nearly continuous carpet of green grass 6-8" high. I spent 10:30 to 11:30 walking the well-worn riverside trail. Also present in quantity were coyote willow, numerous forbs, numerous especially among the latter being dandelions. Weather here was partly cloudy, very little breeze, temperature about 70°F.

Species list: Herp: wandering garter snake - 1, 20"

Birds: Great Blue Heron - 2 ad
Spotted Sandpiper - 2 pra
Common Nighthawk - 2
Broad-tailed Hummer - 4 ♀
N. Flicker - 1 H.O.
W. Wood Pewee - 2
Tree Swallow - 2 ♂
Violet-green Swallow - 60
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 3
Cliff Swallow - 85
House Wren - 15 H.O.
Ravens - 10 H.O.
Warbling Vireo - 2
Yellow Warbler - 30
Song Sparrow - 8
Brewer's Blackbird - 18
Brown-headed Cowbird - 12
Bullock's Oriole - 4
Cassin's Finch - 1 ♂
Pine Siskin - 3
Lesser Goldfinch - 5 (incl. 2 ad. green-backed ♂♂)

mammal: golden mantled ground squirrel.

Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 5332 ft.

June 18-19 From Curecanti NRA, I drove E on U.S. Highway 50 through Gunnison, over Monarch Pass, past Salida and into Cañon City. After stopping at the Chamber of Commerce, I went

TRACHET, J.
1991

Journal

Cañon City Fremont Co., Colorado Elevation 5332 ft.

June 18+19 (cont'd) To visit Jeff Freiner, of the Recreation & Park District for permission to mist net birds along the Arkansas River in town, as this is the type locality for the species. Gratifyingly, he granted permission ~~&~~ hesitation. He informed me that most of the city's stretch of the Arkansas River was a park known locally as the River Walk, with access on both eastern & western ends, the park itself almost 2 miles long. After a bit of shopping and reserving a motel room, I walked the River Walk, first from the west end from 16:15–17:45; then from the east end from 18:05 to 20:00. Through town the river has a gentle gradient running to the east. Appropriate for the county, Fremont Cottonwoods are the dominant tree, with many old, large trees present, but all size classes were noted. Two kinds of willow (Black willow(?) & Coyote willow) contributed significantly to the riparian woodland, as to a lesser extent did Ash. There was a very little Russian olive and even less tamarisk. Lots of grasses and forbs (inc. several compositae) made up the green ground cover. There were a few marshes toward the east end of the park. These had Typha & Scirpus as their dominant emergents, with a concentration of willows nearby. The bluff slopes on the south side of the river had big sagebrush, chalk and dry grass. The weather was partly cloudy, W. wind at 10mph, about 75–70°F.

Species list for River Walk, Cañon City, June 18:

Green-backed Heron – 5 ad	Killdeer – 2 H.O.
Mallard – 2 ad ♀, 6 young	Rock Dove – 8
Virginia Rail – 1 H.O.	Mourning Dove – 25

TROCHET, J.
1991

Journal

Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 5332 ft.

June 18-19 (cont'd)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 3
Broad-tailed Hummer
Downy Woodpecker - 2
N. Flicker - 1 H.O
W. Wood Pewee - 3
Say's Phoebe - 1 H.O.
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 10
Barn Swallow - 1
Black-billed Magpie - 15
Black-capped Chickadee - 3
Bewick's Wren - 4
House Wren - 8
American Robin - 45
European Starling - 125
Yellow Warbler - 10
Common Yellowthroat - 5
Yellow-breasted Chat - 6
Black-headed Grosbeak - 3
Blue Grosbeak - 3
Lazuli Bunting - 5
Indigo (or Indigo x Lazuli) - 1
Song Sparrow - 6
House Finch - 12
Lesser Goldfinch - 5
American Goldfinch - 3

In the morning of June 19, I revisited the River Walk from 05:45 to 07:45, mostly on the west end. The morning was clear, light breeze from E., Temp about 60°F. Birds not found yesterday were American Kestrel & Spotted Towhee; more conspicuous were the woodpeckers, Black-capped Chickadees, and Black-headed grosbeaks. Missed were green-backed Heron, Mallard & Virginia Rail. Few lesser goldfinches were seen.

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area 10 miles NE Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 After leaving the River Walk, I drove to BLM office on the east edge of Cañon City. After stating my interest, I was directed to Paul Trentzsch and Erik Brekke. They did not know of anywhere in town that would have numbers of lesser

Tracy John
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont) goldfinches if the River Walk did not. This dashed my hope of collecting a nice topotypical series. They recommended I try a place not far from town to the northeast, Beaver Creek WMA, a wilderness study area with promising-sounding riparian habitat just beyond road's end. Following their directions, I reached the area from Cañon City via U.S. 50 east to County Road 67 to County Road 123 to County Road 132. The county roads traversed mostly overgrazed, gently rolling plains with scattered Opuntia cacti, with pinyon-juniper savanna and woodland as one traversed County Road 132. I arrived at road's end about 10:00. Weather en route was partly cloudy, about 70°F. Vertebrates seen en route were:

Amphibians: Bufo sp. -1

Birds: American Kestrel -2

Mourning Dove - 25

Burrowing Owl - 1

Horned Lark - 6

Scrub Jay - 1

Black-billed Magpie - 3

Common Crow - 2

Plain Titmouse - 1

Canyon Towhee - 2

Vesper Sparrow - 8

Lark Sparrow - 12

House Finch - 20

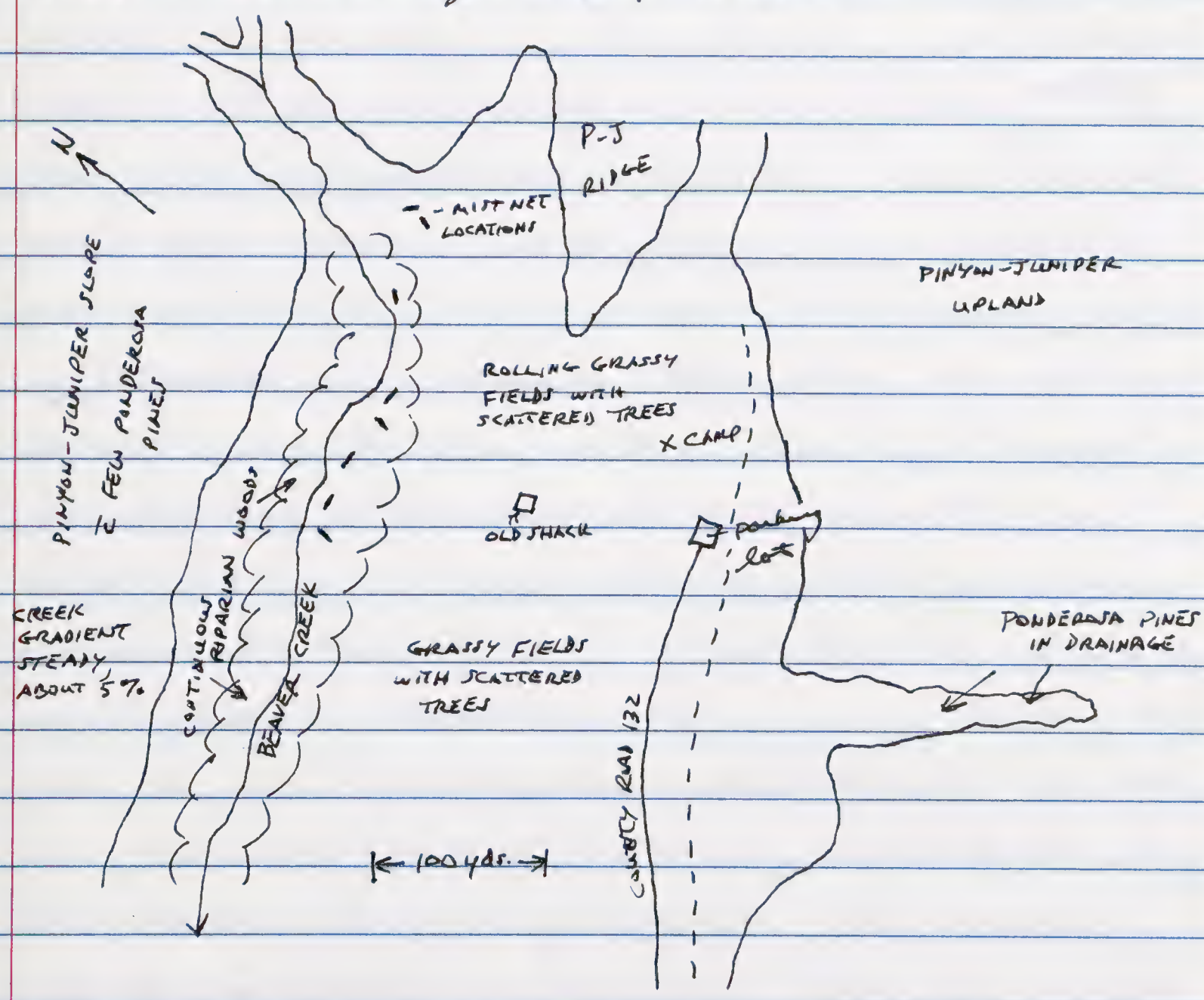
Mammals: Lepus californicus - 3

Lucas, Tom
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Canon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont'd) Upon arrival at Beaver Creek WMA, I first assessed numbers of lesser goldfinches in the riparian corridor of Beaver Creek, and there appeared to be very good numbers. I then set up my tents in a clump of trees (mostly cottonwood & box elders) in a grassy gently sloping field, so that I would be shaded in the afternoon. I then explored the area to look for nest sites and potential concentrations of goldfinches away from the riparian corridor. This is a rough map of the area



The dominant riparian woodland tree was narrow-leaf cottonwood, but lance-leaf and Fremont cottonwoods were also admixed in fair quantity. The trees were 40-60 ft. tall, with 1-2 ft

Tirrell, J.
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont'd) dbh, typical. Tree reproduction has recently been good, with many small trees and saplings also present. Peach-leaf willow was also fairly common as a co-dominant; less common was box elder, and these were generally smaller trees. Understory shrubs were distributed in frequent thick clumps the length of the explored riparian zone (about 600 yards). These included squawbush, currant, wild rose, and coyote willow. With the exception of a well-worn fishermen's trail, the ground elsewhere was heavily grown to 6-15" grasses and giant clover, with a scattering of other wildflowers. Away from the immediate riparian zone, green grassy fields on gently rolling slopes covered the ground between the creek and the fence line just south of the road, punctuated here and there with scattered, mostly medium sized box elders and cottonwoods. Between the parking lot and the creek was an old shack and broken down corral. The fencing near the shack and the south side of the shack itself was overgrown with virginia creeper. The surrounding uplands were not explored or carefully studied floristically. They were seemingly dominated by Colorado Pinyon & Juniperus sp. North of the creek, the slope also had some scattered Ponderosa pines. These pines grew most abundantly in a drainage south of the parking lot. The creek itself was quite popular today with trout fishermen. I didn't see any fish taken. After supper I set up four mist nets, but did not open them since little daylight remained.

Weather at Beaver Creek WMA June 19 was partly cloudy

Fischer, John
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont) until noon, then solidly cloudy the remainder of the day. There were more-or-less continuous showers from 15:10 to 17:30, then a cloudburst from 17:30 to 17:50. Lightning flashed seemingly very close several times. After the downpour, it rained intermittently to 19:30. Winds were variable 2-5 mph except near thunderstorms, when they were much higher and gustier. The temperature ranged from 60-75°F.

On June 20, I spent the day running nets, beginning at 05:15, and recording and putting up specimens. Owing to winds, nets were closed 14:15 to 17:00, and closed for the day at 19:30. Cardinalis are indeed plentiful, and I secured 5 pattern and one pinus today, a pretty good day.

Weather June 20, 1991 was clear in the morning with intermittent light NE breezes switching to SW 5-10 mph @ 10:00. The afternoon was partly cloudy, mostly cloudy from 13:45 to about 17:00. A thunderstorm threatened around 15:30, but this brought only high winds and scattered drops. Temp. range today was 55°-85°F.

On June 21, I again spent the day running between nets until about 11:00, when I had ~~four~~ four lesser goldfinches to record & prepare and a pine siskin to take care of. I reopened the nets at 18:30, but higher winds increased net visibility and I caught no late birds. Jake Rodriguez, Colorado Division of Wildlife officer I called from the BLM office for notification of collecting activities in his jurisdiction, paid a visit, checking my permits and looking at my field set-up. His visit lasted

Lucas, J.
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont'd) about forty-five minutes, concluding at 15:10. One highlight of the day was a very brisk bath in the creek during late afternoon. The second was catching a ♀ Broad-tailed Hummingbird in my work tent. I'm surprised that it entered such a small opening in the zipper; presumably a red sweatshirt was the attraction.

Weather June 21 saw temperatures range from 55°–90°F; there were steady winds 5–10 mph out of NE, except from 09:30 to 11:30, when they were intermittent, and after 18:00, when they were higher, about 10–15 mph. There was no threat of rain today.

June 22 was spent mostly in the tent, sheltered from the rain, which began at 04:05 and continued steadily until 05:15, when it began to rain very hard, associated with gusty winds. This lasted until 06:30. From 06:30 to 15:15, there were steady 10–15 mph SW winds, c̄ higher gusts, and frequent intermittent rains. At 15:15, and continuing for 90 minutes, winds abated and skies mostly cleared. I cleared my nets, opened them, and enjoyed a goldfinch bonanza, catching 16 *Carduelis psaltria*! Rain resumed 16:45 and finally stopped at 18:10. I spent the remaining daylight recording birds, and working until after midnight (02:25) putting up about half those collected today. The remainder were kept in the ice box until morning light.

Cloud and precipitation information have already been given in the preceding paragraph. Other weather parameters for June 22 were the range of temperature of 60–70°F and the shift of winds to 5–15 out of the NE at sunset.

On June 23, I never opened any mist nets, but stayed in

Jerant, Jeff
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE of Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 ft.

June 19-23 (cont) the work tent putting up the remaining goldfinches captured June 22. This work I began at about 09:00, after a late rising and a filling breakfast. I worked straight through to almost 15:00. I then took down my mist nets, broke camp, and just before returning to Cañon City, took a quick bath in the creek. I left about 16:30

Weather June 23 brought early rain, from 04:00 to 06:30, skies clearing by 09:00. Temperature ranged from 60°–85°F. A few clouds reappeared about 15:00, and at the time of departure there were thunderheads to the N. Winds out of the NE 5–15 mph blew all day.

Species list for Beaver Creek WMA:

Amphibians: none

Reptiles: Pituophis melanoleucus – 1, June 23

Birds: Mourning Dove
White-Throated Swift
Broad-Tailed Hummingbird
Belted Kingfisher
Downy Woodpecker
N. Flicker
W. Wood Pewee
Dusky Flycatcher
Gray Flycatcher
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Violet-green Swallow
Steller's Jay
Scrub Jay
Black-capped Chickadee
House Wren
American Dipper
W. Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Warbling Vireo
Yellow Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
W. Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak

Trocar, John
1991

Journal

Beaver Creek Wildlife Management Area, 10 miles NE Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 6100 feet.

June ~~July~~ 19-23 (Cont'd)

Blue Grosbeak	Lark Sparrow
Lazuli Bunting	Brown-headed Cowbird
Indigo Bunting	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Lazuli x Indigo Bunting	House Finch
Rufous-sided Towhee	Pine Siskin
Chipping Sparrow	Lesser Goldfinch
Vesper Sparrow	

Mammals: *Sylvilagus* sp. - 1, June 22; deer track.

Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado. Elevation 5332 feet

June 23-24 I retraced my route, back to Cañon City, in hopes of collecting at least a few type types. On my return, I left a note of thanks on the locked door of the BLM office, rented a motel room for the night, and dined at a local restaurant. Beginning about 19:00, I walked the River Walk once again, this time seriously looking for net sites in the vegetation. I saw greater floristic diversity than I noticed on my earlier tour. Besides cottonwoods, other significant woodland tree species include box elder, willow, locust, mulberry (in fruit) and Siberian elm. Understory plants commonly found were grape, poison ivy, coyote willow, and Virginia creeper. There were scores of people using the park, and I was therefore loathe to drag my nets out for evening set-up. I noted where two nets could be set up easily and safely, by flashlight if need be, early the following morning, and I left the park at 20:15.

Trochet, John
1991

Journal

Cañon City, Fremont Co., Colorado, Elevation 5332 feet.

June 23-24 Weather this evening was suitable for E winds 10-15 mph, c̄ gusts to 20-25 mph. There were a few scattered clouds and the temperature was about 75°F.

On June 24, I did not get up as early as I had intended, so my nets (two) were not opened until 06:20. I concealed myself behind some Virginia creeper and watched my nets. And watched my nets some-more. Despite little wind and well-shaded sites, and the mid-net high placement of caged Judas birds, I caught only one yellow warbler and two starlings in 90 minutes. I heard no goldfinches. Since the wind out of the east picked up at 08:00, I decided to give up. While taking down one net, the ♂ of a pair of lesser goldfinches flew into the other net; the female flew back to him, bounced off the net, then perched tantalizingly on the shelf string. She fled before I could get into position to try to flush her into the net. I took my one topotype out of the net, attempted to record it, killed it, and took down my net. I put up the specimen at the driver's seat of my vehicle. No species was noted this visit that was unrecorded on my earlier visit a few days ago.

In weather the morning of June 24 had temp range from 55°F to 65°, with many a cloud. E wind ţ 08:00 5-10 mph c̄ higher gusts.

Travel Day

June 24 I left Cañon City, Colorado, heading to Clayton, New Mexico, at 10:30. I took a 50 mile detour by continuing E. on US. 50

TRICHET, J.

1991

Journal

Travel Day

June 24 (cont) Through Pueblo to the little town of Rocky Ford, Colorado, where my wife first independently practiced medicine. From there I took Colorado State Highway 71 south to US Highway 350, which I took SW to Trinidad, Colorado, where I picked up Interstate 25. I continued S. over Raton Pass to Raton, New Mexico. There I picked up US. 64/87 and went E. to Clayton, New Mexico. Wes Cook, a long-time resident of Clayton knowledgeable about Union County birds, recommended three ranches in the area that would likely be fruitful regarding my field work. I called all three ranchers. Two turned me down flat. The third seemed inclined to withhold permission, but asked that I call back in the morning after discussing it with his family. A fourth rancher, just across the state line into Oklahoma, was unavailable at the phone number I was given. With a sense of discouragement, I decided to head for Las Vegas, New Mexico, where Dr. John P. Hubbard had found lesser goldfinches to be numerous along the river there. The sun set while I was in Clayton, so I made the drive to Las Vegas in the dark. This I accomplished by taking US 56 W to Springer, where I picked up Interstate 25, following this S. to my destination. I spent the night in a motel. Excepting the Raton Pass area, I traversed short grass prairie country, much of it heavily grazed and given in places to scattered brush and cholla, punctuated by riparian margins of creeks & ditches. The weather was notable for strong SSW winds 10-25 miles per hour all day. There were heavy clouds mid-to-late afternoon, entirely clearing by sunset. The temperature peaked around 95°F.

Journal

Trahan, J.
1991

Travel Day

June 24 (cont'd) Birds seen in Transit (or heard):

Mallard	N. Rough-winged Swallow
Turkey Vulture	Cliff Swallow
Swainson's Hawk	Barn Swallow
Red-tailed Hawk	Black-billed Magpie
American Kestrel	American Crow
Killdeer	Chihuahuan Raven
American Avocet	Common Raven
Rock Dove	American Robin
Mourning Dove	N. Mockingbird
Common Nighthawk	European Starling
Black Swift (Rotor Pass)	Cassin's Sparrow
N. (Red-Sh.) Flicker	Vesper Sparrow
W. Kingbird	Lark Sparrow
Horned Lark	Lark Bunting
Violet-green Swallow	House Sparrow

Las Vegas & Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, San Miguel Co., New Mexico.

June 25 Through Las Vegas runs the Gallinas River, said by Hubbard to support a riparian habitat home to a good-sized breeding population of Lesser Goldfinch. This is probably true information some years, but it was not my experience. I saw one bird and heard 1-2 others. The river above Las Vegas is frequently crowded by residences and the riparian vegetation is degraded. There are fairly numerous cottonwoods, of 2 leaf types, mostly small, and nowhere forming a closed-canopy gallery woodland. Willows and

TRACHET, J

1991

Journal

Las Vegas and Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, San Miguel Co., New Mexico.

June 25 (cont'd) Siberian elm are lesser components to the "dispersed woodland." The scant understory is mostly Coyote willow. In several places scattered Utah Juniper and Ponderosa Pines are adjacent to the river, especially as the drainage narrows to the northwest of town. I visited this area from 05:30 to 07:40. I then drove to the U.S. Forest Service office in town for suggestions for potential field sites. I was referred to Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge. From the I-25 University Avenue exit, take New Mexico Highway 104 E, away from town. In 1.2 miles there is a signed turn-off to the NWR. Headquarters is 2.1 miles E and 3.2 miles S. of the University Ave. exit. Here I met a trio of helpful folks, but I don't recall any names. There were a few lesser goldfinches on the refuge, they said, but not in sufficient numbers that could withstand my sampling scheme. They suggested the Watrous, NM area a short way to the north, mentioning specifically the Doolittle Ranch there. I left the refuge at 09:30, having seen only that portion visible from the road between Las Vegas and refuge headquarters. I called back to Clayton area Ranger this a.m. — no dice.

The weather this morning was windy from dawn on, with SSE winds 5-10 mph, no clouds, Temp 60-70°F.

Species list (only birds seen, except raccoon track along Gallinas River near Las Vegas): [GR - Gallinas R; NWR - refuge; B - Gen'l]

Green-backed Heron - GR	Turkey Vulture - B
Mallard - B	Cooper's Hawk - GR
Cinnamon Teal - NWR	Red-tailed Hawk - NWR
Gadwall - NWR	American Kestrel - B

TRACHET, J.
1991

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Las Vegas and Las Vegas National Wildlife Refuge, San Miguel Co., New Mexico.

June 25 (cont) American Coot - NWR
Killdeer - B
American Avocet - NWR
Spotted Sandpiper - GR
Long-billed Curlew - NWR
Rock Dove - GR
Mourning Dove - B
Black-chinned Hummingbird - NWR
Belted Kingfisher - GR
Lewis' Woodpecker - GR
Cordilleran Flycatcher - GR
Western Kingbird - NWR
N. Rough-winged Swallow - NWR
Barn Swallow - NWR
American Crow - NWR
American Robin - GR
N. Mockingbird - B
European Starling - B
Yellow Warbler - GR
Black-headed Grosbeak - GR
Rufous-sided Towhee - GR
Vesper Sparrow - NWR
Lark Sparrow - NWR
Red-winged Blackbird - B
Western Meadowlark - B
Brewer's Blackbird - NWR
Common Grackle - B
Brown-headed Cowbird - GR
N. (Bullock's) Oriole - GR
House Finch - B
Pine Siskin - GR
Lesser Goldfinch - GR
House Sparrow - NWR

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile N. of Watrous, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6850 feet.

June 25 I reached the headquarters of the Doolittle Ranch from Las Vegas via Interstate 25, going north to the Watrous exit at New Mexico State Highway 97. The residence at the headquarters is a registered national historic landmark. The proprietress of the ranch so readily gave me the run of the property as to astonish me! What a wonderful contrast to my recent luck in Union County.

Tuesday, June 1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile N. of Watrous, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elev. 6850 ft.

June 25 (cont) The owner is the granddaughter of the ranch's founder, and she was born in the house early this century. She apparently has no heirs, so she is planning to donate the property as a headquarters for the Santa Fe Trail Association. The "mountain cut-off branch" of the old Santa Fe Trail crosses her property, and continues through Watrous. I arrived here about 10:50.

After visiting about an hour, learning some local history and being shown the house, and listening to a description of the property, I set out to explore the ranch. Two small rivers converge on the property, the Sapello joining the Mora, and continuing as the Mora River. Ta watercourses all supported an impressive riparian vegetation. The dominant tree was again cottonwood, with Fremont, lance-leaved, & narrow-leaved cottonwoods present in order of decreasing frequency. These trees formed the core of a discontinuous gallery woodland. There were several fairly long stretches (100-200 yards) of closed canopy woods, including a few shelterbelts adjacent to ranch roads and storage buildings. The trees were mostly large, old trees, many with weeping areas of heart disease (a fungus, I believe). The trees were mainly 40-70' tall, and 2-4 ft dbh. There were few young cottonwoods, and no small ones were noted. Contributing to the riparian grove were smaller (in number and stature) representations of box elder, two types of willow, one localized cluster of locust, and a wide scattering of tare (on the ranch, anyway) Tamarisk. I saw no Russian olive trees. Where the locust trees were located, about 3/8 mile downstream of the confluence of the Sapello and Mora Rivers, the Mora divided. One

Thorne, J.
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile N. of Watrous, Mora Co, New Mexico.
Elevation 6850 feet.

June 25 (cont) arm of the river feeds a 150' x 65' pond impounded behind a beaver dam, the pond supporting both Typha & Scirpus in fair quantities. The floodplain varied in breadth from none in some short stretches of canyon to perhaps 300 yards. The gallery forest understory, and to a lesser extent found also on the floodplain, was home to Virginia creeper, grape, hemlock, thistle (in flower, not yet in seed), wild sunflower (Helianthus) not yet in flower, pathfinder, wild rose and squawbush. Two peach trees were found in one spot along the river. There were occasional Utah junipers also. More common in floodplain fields, but occurring also in the woodland understory, were many varieties of grass, with Western wheat grass and Buffalo grass prominent – as were others I can't name. There was also wild squash, mullein, Indian paintbrush, mallow, asters, sumac, penstemon, phlox, clover (3 flower types), many yellow composites, and others. The low hills beyond the flood plain were not closely inspected, but Utah juniper was the most common tree. There was some pinyon, more (but still few) ponderosa pines to 45 feet or so, a few Gambel's oak, and a couple clusters of a second oak species. Less luxuriant was the grass growth on these uplands.

Importantly, Lesser Goldfinches were fairly common, but seemingly widely spaced. I elected to set up my camp late in the day about 3/4 mile downstream of the confluence of the Sapello and Mora Rivers. I set up my nets in the riparian groves there after supper, but, owing to high winds, left them closed.

Trocaor, J.A.
1991

Journal

Dorlittle Ranch, 3/4 miles N. of Watrous, Mora Co., New Mexico.
Elevation 6850 feet.

June 25 (cont'd) Weather today at the ranch was very windy, blowing SSE 15-25 mph. Thunder clouds developed over the Sangre de Cristo Range to the west by noon and drifted over this way by 15:30. Showers started at 18:05, and it rained fairly hard between 18:15 and 18:25. The wind near the thunderstorms were very high. One large old cottonwood by the river was uprooted. Another, near my tent in a shelterbelt, lost a large limb. Owing to cloud cover and higher elevation, it was cooler today than yesterday, with a maximum of about 80°F.

Species List:

Herps: Cnemidophorus sp.

Birds: Great Blue Heron	N. Rough-winged Swallow
Cinnamon Teal	Cliff Swallow
Turkey Vulture	Barn Swallow
Red-tailed Hawk	Black-billed Magpie
Killdeer	American ~~Common~~ ~~American~~ Crow
Rock Dove	White-breasted Nuthatch
Mourning Dove	Bewick's Wren
Common Nighthawk	House Wren
Hummingbird sp.	Western Bluebird
Lewis' Woodpecker	Mountain Bluebird
Downy Woodpecker	American Robin
N. (Red-sh.) Flicker	N. Mockingbird
W. Wood Pewee	Loggerhead Shrike
Ash-throated Flycatcher	European Starling
Western Kingbird	Yellow Warbler

Thomas, J. A.
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 miles N. of Watrous, Mora Co., New Mexico.
Elevation 6850 feet.

June 25 (cont)

Common Yellowthroat	Brewer's Blackbird
Black-headed Grosbeak	Common Grackle
Blue Grosbeak	Brown-headed Cowbird
Rufous-sided Towhee	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Lark Sparrow	House Finch
Red-winged Blackbird	Lesser Goldfinch
Western Meadowlark	House Sparrow

mammals: Sylvilagus sp.; deer, beaver, & racoon track.

Doolittle Ranch 3/4 miles downstream of confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 feet.

June 26-29 I opened my four nets at 05:20-05:30, and I caught my first goldfinch at 06:05. By 09:00 I had caught 11 lesser goldfinches. One ♂ goldfinch was preyed upon in the net, its head eaten off. The same (or a different?) predator killed a ♂ Bullock's oriole and partially ate it in the mist net. The partially eaten birds were discovered in the same net at the same time. Having 12 birds to put up, I closed my nets and spent the rest of the day, save brief stretching episodes just outside the door, inside my work tent.

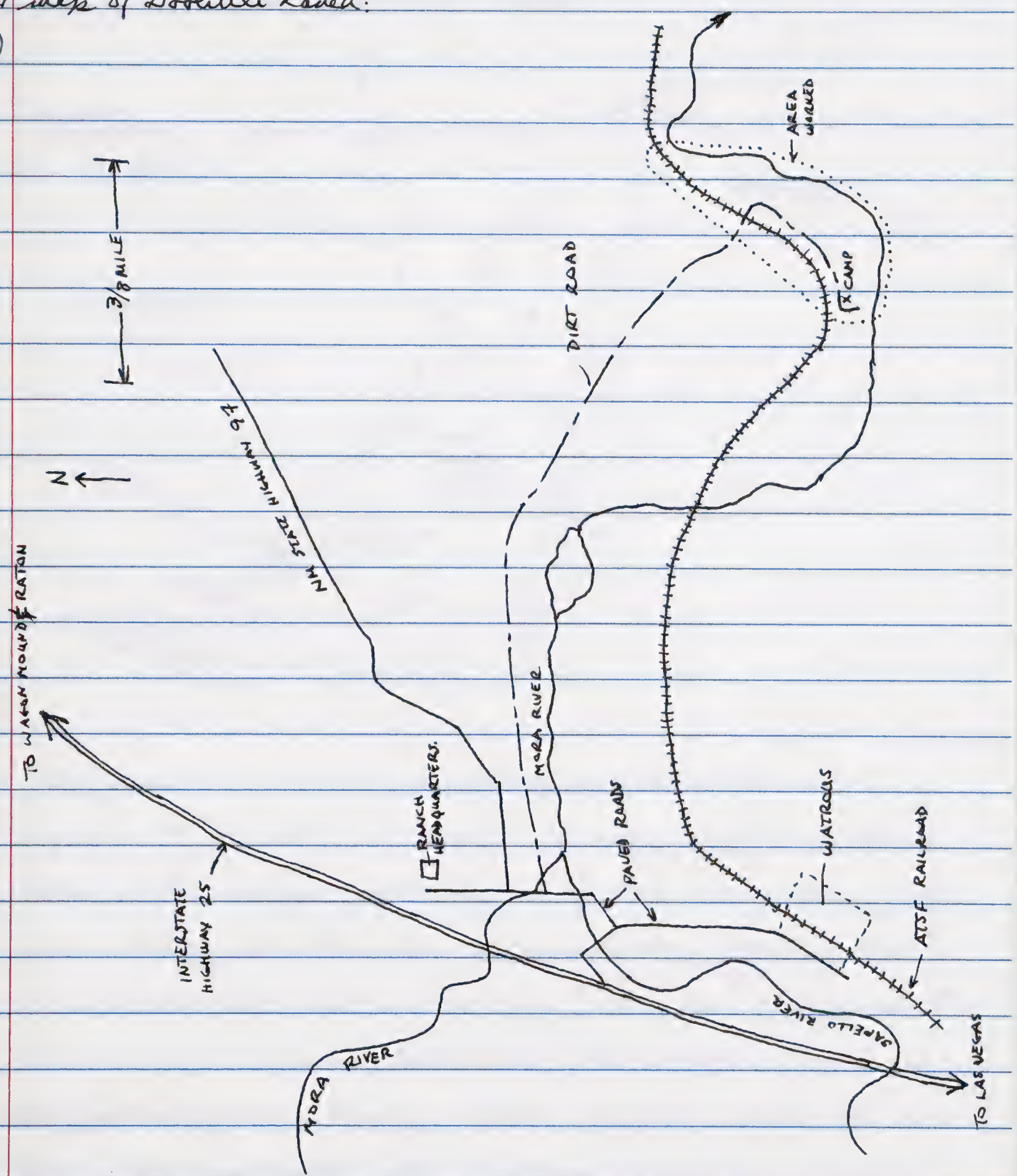
The weather June 26: calm at dawn, until about 07:20; then intermittent 5-10 mph gusty bouts until 09:30, after which there were steady winds the remainder of the day, mainly out of the S, but shifting around from SE, ESE, & occ. SW. Fewer thunderclouds today, two passing close by but no rain fell here. Temp. range 60-85°F. Still windy at sunset, but less so than last night.

Tucker, J.A.
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch 3/4 mile downstream from confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

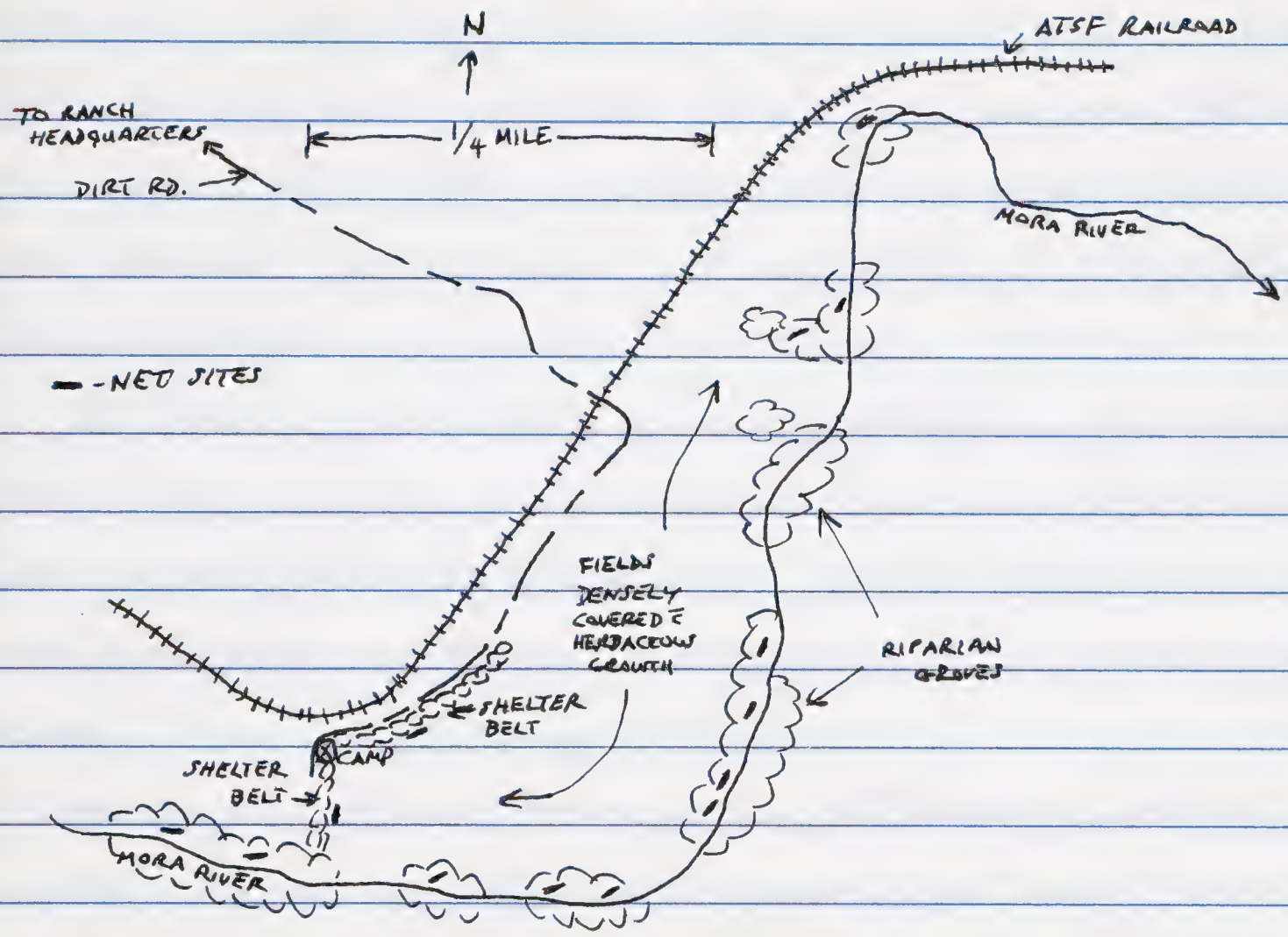
June 26-29 (con't) map of Doolittle Ranch:



Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile downstream from confluence of Lapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 feet

June 26-29 (cont'd) map of SE portion of Doolittle Ranch:



On June 27, I started running my nets at 05:30, and had very poor luck netting goldfinches. I caught a good number of birds in the morning, but only one of these was a lesser goldfinch. I did get a clue about the perpetrator of the predation in the mist net yesterday. In one of my nets was trapped a ♂ American Kestrel; next to him in the net was a dead and torn juvenile House Finch. I later caught probably the same bird in the same net, with frightened songbirds of several species in the same net, but out the Kestrel's reach. I moved two nets twice during the afternoon, and relocated all four just before sunset. In moving one of these four, I flushed an E. Kingbird off its nest, which contained four ½-grown nestlings.

Trocaire, John
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch 3/4 mile downstream from confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 feet.

June 26-29 (cont) The weather June 27 started clear, calm and 60°F. Intermittent S. breezes started at 09:30, becoming steady S. wind 5-10 mph @ 13:30. T-clouds were visible in W. over the Sangres, and some drifted this way by 17:00. There were decent showers off & on 18:10 to 19:30, with one hard, ten minute shower thrown in. High Temp. today was 85°F.

June 28 was, for purposes of securing goldfinches, just like the previous day, except it was five times as successful! The birds were captured between 05:45 and 08:00. Owing to winds, the nets were closed by 12:30, and remained closed, owing to weather, for the rest of the day.

Weather June 28 saw temp range from 65° to 85°F. It was mostly cloudy all day. S. winds 5-10 mph began early (~07:30), & steady 10-20 mph winds beginning about noon. Big thunder clouds brought 15 minute showers at 14:30 and 17:10, and it rained almost continuously from 20:00 - 22:15.

June 29 was another day of running nets (and changing net locations) almost all morning and recording and putting up specimens almost all afternoon & early evening. I completed the seventh & last specimen prep at 21:15. I drove back to ranch headquarters to thank the owner and to advise her of my departure that night. It took me about 45 minutes to break camp, and I departed at 22:30.

Weather June 29: Temp range 65°-85°F. The morning was mostly cloudy, afternoon also mostly cloudy with periods of 100% cloud cover. Almost no wind until 09:30, when fairly steady

Lucas, John

1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 miles downstream of Confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 26-29 (cont'd) 5-10 mph NNE winds blew in, switching to NW by 10:30. By 11:30, big thunderheads were visible over the Sangres, and these steadily approached through early afternoon. Though heavy rain threatened almost continuously after 14:10, associated with gusty variable winds 10-20 mph, only intermittent brief sprinkles fell from 14:30 to 16:30, & a light shower from 17:20-17:30. A heavier rain began falling at 21:50, while I was breaking camp, and continued ~~until~~ at I left.

Species list for Doolittle Ranch:

Amphibians: Bufo woodhousei

Pseudacris sp S.V. 9cm

Reptiles: turtle sp.

Cnemidophorus sp.

Sceloporus undulatus

Thamnophis cyrtopsis

Birds: Great Blue Heron

Green-backed Heron

Wood Duck - 2♂, 1♀ & 3 small young

Mallard

Cinnamon Teal

Turkey Vulture

Cooper's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

American Kestrel

Wild Turkey

Killdeer

Spotted Sandpiper

Rock Dove

Mourning Dove

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Great Horned Owl

W. Screech Owl

Common Nighthawk

Poorwill

Black-chinned Hummer

Broad-tailed Hummer

Rufous Hummer - early? 1♂ 6/24

Tucker, John
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 miles downstream confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co, New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 26-29 (cont)

Belted Kingfisher
Lewis' Woodpecker
Downy Woodpecker
Hairy Woodpecker
N. (Red-sh.) Flicker
W. Wood Pewee
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
Western Kingbird
Eastern Kingbird
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Pinyon Jay
Black-billed Magpie
American Crow
Mountain Chickadee
Plain Titmouse
Bushtit
White-breasted Nuthatch
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Western Bluebird
Mountain Bluebird
American Robin
N. Mockingbird
Loggerhead Shrike
European Starling
Warbling Vireo
Virginia's Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Black-headed Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Rufous-sided Towhee
Canyon Towhee
Lark Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Western Meadowlark
Brewer's Blackbird
Common Grackle
Brown-headed Cowbird
N. (Bullock's) Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
House Sparrow

Lucas, John
1991

Journal

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile downstream of confluence of Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 26-29 (cont) mammals: bat sp.
Canis sp - track
Procyon track
Eutheijon - fur & quills
Sadatra

Castor
mouse sp.
Neotoma - nest in crevice in 15' rock wall just N. of camp.
Bos
Odocoileus track
Equus

Jicarilla Indian Reservation, McKinley Co., New Mexico

June 30 While travelling last night & early this morning my car started making a worrisome noise at the left front end. I limped into Gallup, New Mexico, via I-25 to I-40, where I could get local help from known folks. Al Charles suggested getting my Subaru worked on at Amigo Chevrolet, and Al Schmeeier kindly consented to putting me up while my car is in the shop. After dropping the car off, Al Schmeeier took me down to Jemez to see what birds we could find at our former Rome. Our visit was a brief one, 10:45 to 15:30. We visited the canyon below Blackrock Dam, scoped Blackrock Lake, walked the west half of Blackrock Bosque, briefly visited the west end of Nutria Lake #2, and scoped Nutria Lakes #3 & #4, and Nutria Diversion Reservoir. We then returned to Gallup via State Highway 602 (old Highway 32), retracing our earlier route to the reservation.

Weather today was warm, 80-85°F, cloudless, with light westerly breezes, increasing to 5-15 mph westerly winds after 14:30.

Greene, John
1991

Journal

Zuni Indian Reservation, McKinley Co., New Mexico

June 30 (cont'd) Species list:

Pied-billed Grebe
Eared Grebe
Great Blue Heron
White-faced Ibis - 3, NK#3
Mallard
Cinnamon Teal
N. Shoveler
Gadwall
Redhead
Ruddy Duck
Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
American Coot.
Killdeer
Greater Yellowlegs
Spotted Sandpiper
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
Black-chinned Hummer
Broad-tailed Hummer
Ladder-backed Woodpecker - 1♂ 1st Zuni record
N. (Red-sh.) Flicker
W. Wood-Pewee
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
W. Kingbird
Horned Lark
Violet-green Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Scrub Jay
American Crow
Common Raven
Plain Titmouse
Bushtit
White-breasted Nuthatch
Rock Wren
Bewick's Wren
Mountain Bluebird
American Robin
N. Mockingbird
European Starling
Plumbeous Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Virginia's Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
Yellow-breasted Chat

Lucas, J
1991

Journal

Zuni Indian Reservation, McKinley Co., New Mexico

June 30 (cont)

Western Tanager	W. Meadowlark
Black-headed Grosbeak	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Blue Grosbeak	Brewer's Blackbird
Lazuli Bunting	Common Grackle – 2♂, BB
Rufous-sided Towhee	Brown-headed Cowbird
Chipping Sparrow	Bullock's Oriole
Vesper Sparrow	House Finch
Lark Sparrow	Lesser Goldfinch
Song Sparrow	American Goldfinch
Red-winged Blackbird	House Sparrow

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation feet.

July 3-6 I ended up waiting in Gallup from June 30 to July 3 because what I thought was a wheel bearing problem was really an axle problem, and parts had to be shipped from Phoenix, Arizona. After picking up my car at 10:00, I reloaded my vehicle and left Gallup at 10:50 via U.S. Highway 666 northbound. I stopped in Tohatchi to visit another former Zuni resident, Fr. Terence, then continued north to Shiprock, where I picked up U.S. Highway 64/550 and drove east to Farmington. In Farmington, I called Alan P. Nelson, San Juan County's long-time resident expert on bird distribution in northwestern New Mexico. At his suggestion, I explored Berg Park & B-square Ranch in Farmington along the Animas and San Juan rivers, respectively. The number of goldfinches were disappointing. Nelson also recommended Simon Canyon, a BLM natural area east of Farmington near the Navajo Dam on the San Juan River. I reached

Tweet, John
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation feet.

July 3-6 (cont'd) Simon Canyon from Farmington via U.S. Highway 64 east through Bloomfield and Blanco, turning N.E. on NM State Highway 511. I crossed the San Juan River by turning W. on NM Highway 173. A quarter mile past the river, a good gravel road turned NE, signed for both Cottonwood Campground and, 3 miles on, Simon Canyon Natural Area. Weather July 3 mostly sunny, c.c. W. breezes, temp 65-95°F. 15:45-16:00

Simon Canyon was briefly explored, but passed the only critical test very quickly - there were lots of lesser goldfinches here. I decided quickly to make this my next field site. But for the evening, I would drive with Jim and Linda Reeves and spend the night with them at their home in Farmington. From there I picked up three large, heavy boxes of fossils gathered in the foothills of the Zuni Mountains, to transport these to Kevin Padian at the Museum of Paleontology back at U.C. Berkeley.

I left Farmington at 05:00 July 4, set up my nets at Simon Canyon and caught my first lesser goldfinch by 06:30. After getting 2 birds by 08:30, I took a break to locate a sandy spot for my camp and set it up before it got too warm. When I was done making camp and eating breakfast, about 09:40, bird activity had subsided considerably. Things were very quiet by noon, so I explored Simon Canyon proper, walking about a mile up canyon and back in a leisurely fashion. After lunch I put up one of the birds (waiting still for the other to vocalize for recording), and re-opened my mist nets. I caught a couple more birds late afternoon. I spent from 17:30 to 20:00 putting up the last three birds in my work tent.

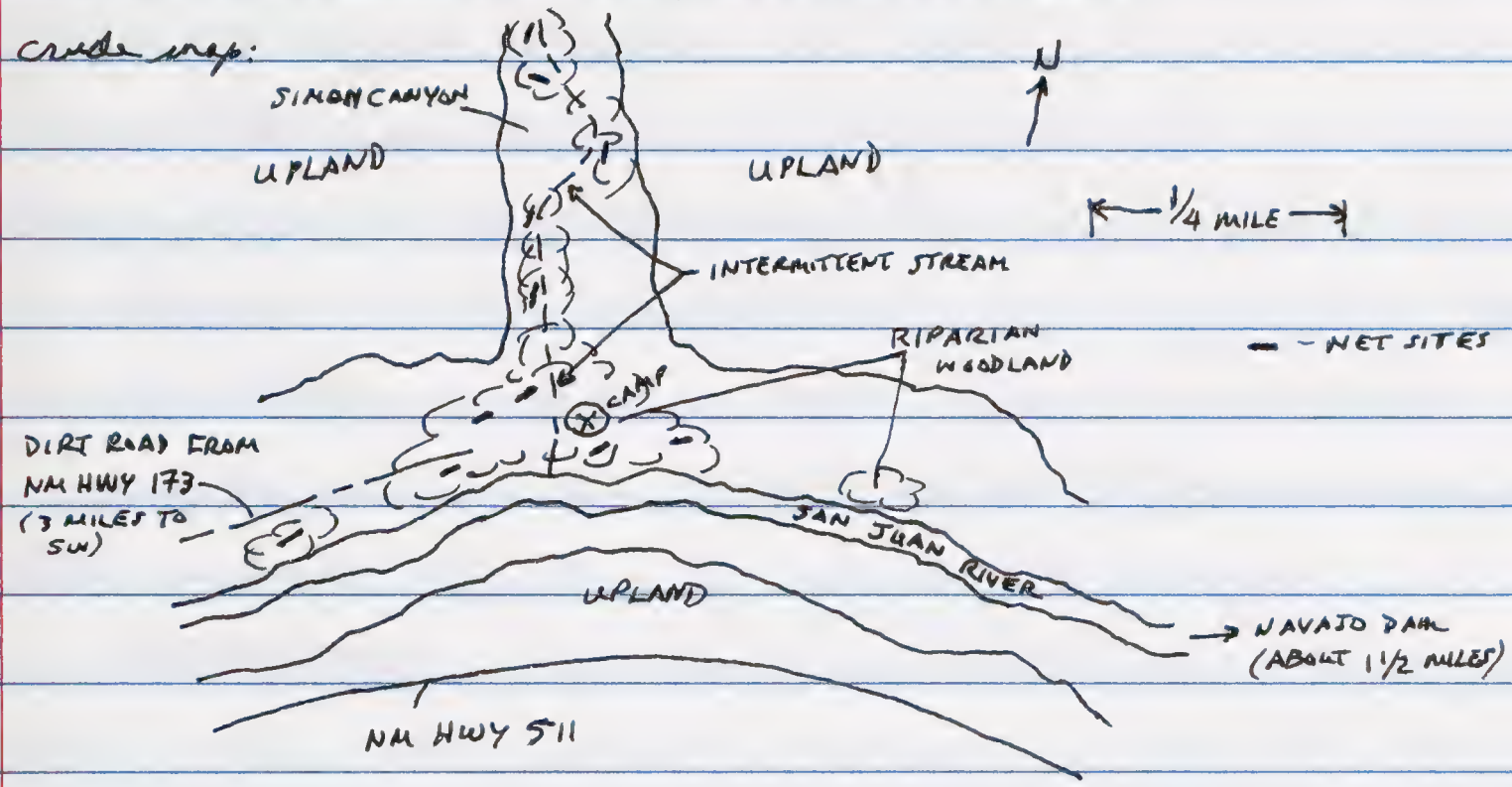
TROCHET, J.
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan County, New Mexico, Elevation feet.

July 3-6 (cont)

crude map:



The habitat at Simon Canyon is basically canyon riparian. Simon Canyon itself is a NNW-trending canyon as it leaves the canyon of the San Juan River. The immediate canyon walls are 15-40' high, but the visible rimrock back from the stream channel is about 100-125' high. Surface water is intermittent, flowing in only a few places, standing in many more, and apparent only in the lowest half mile (I walked about a mile up from the San Juan River). The riparian vegetation quickly thins out above this point. In the canyon, lance-leafed and Fremont Cottonwoods are the only trees, mostly 25-40' tall, 8-20" dbh, and forming in short (50-100') stretches a closed canopy. Isolated trees were also frequent. Understory density varied widely from place to place, occasionally thick, usually thin, sometimes absent. These plants included Tamarisk, New Mexico olive, squawbush, and coyote willow, the last occurring in rank patches a few places. Some Equisetum, Typha and sedges grew along the margins of wet sand. Open-to-fairly-closed stands of pinyon-juniper

TRACHET, JOHN
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation feet.

July 3-6 grew on the uplands, and there were ponderosa pine cones in the
(cont) canyon bottom, mostly above the riparian zone of the lower canyon. Amazingly for BLM land, unscarred is the canyon by track (or turd) of cow, sheep or horse! So too herbaceous growth is quite good. There are several different grasses, a couple different small yellow composites, good quantities of thistle and star thistle, and numerous wild sunflower (Helianthus), most not yet in flower.

~~Weather July 4.~~ At its junction with the river, the riparian area of Simon Canyon expands east and west along the north shore of the San Juan. The cottonwood trees there are larger on average than those in the canyon, but none is very large. Owing to dirt tracks through this grove, the understory is more discontinuous. Still, patches are quite thick, and save the Equisetum, Typha & sedges, the composition is like that of Simon Canyon. Additionally there are scattered patches of a plant of brittlebrush/sagebrush, with pretty 2/3 x 3½" purple trumpet blossoms of these low bushes. There's a patch just outside front door of my tent.

About 3/4 mile up Simon Canyon is a remarkable archeological feature, a Navajo rock shelter perched atop a 15-18' diameter boulder sitting on the canyon floor. Access was perforce by ladder. The shelter was dated to the Gobernador period (A.D. 1700-1775).

Weather July 4 was clear in the a.m., dawn temp about 60°F. A NW wind came up about 07:05, light & intermittent until 11:30, then gusty & intermittent 5-15 mph. After noon, thunder clouds were visible at all points of the compass, but no rain

Terrill, John
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

July 3-6 (cont) threatened until 19:15, but excepting 2 min of showers at 19:30, no rain fell. Wind was gusty & of variable orientation near these thunderclouds. High temperature today was 90°F

July 5, I opened my nets at 05:25 and was kept busy all morning. Two nets were wholly unsuccessful, even for non-goldfinches, so I moved these about 09:00. On the whole, however, it was just about perfect for getting goldfinches. I got eight today, six early and two at midday, WHEN I MOVED ALL MY NETS; ALL CLOSED AT 14:30. These kept me busy until an hour before sunset, when I enjoyed my solar-heated shower and watched a handsome sunset. The pace today was just about optimum.

The weather July 5: dawn 60°F, light E wind in San Juan River Canyon, N wind 5 mph in Simon Canyon. Windless only from 08:20–08:50, then wind shifted to WNW 5 mph. There were just a couple clouds at dawn, rapidly clearing until 11:00. Thunderclouds then began building up at all points of the compass. The winds in the afternoon were light & variable x̄ c̄ close thunderstorms 15:45 to 18:45. These brought lightning & thunder & high gusty winds, but very little rain. At sunset, few clouds x̄ distantly in W, light N wind at sunset. High temp. today 85°F

July 6 saw a slow start to netting goldfinches, so I moved nets at intervals late morning, midday, and again mid afternoon, progressively farther up Simon Canyon. I caught a few birds at midday, but most I caught between 16:45 & 18:30. By the time I finished recording birds, I had insufficient time to properly make study skins, so these late birds were made into

Lockey, John
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co. New Mexico. Elevation feet.

July 3-6 complete skeletons. All were green-backed orbs.

(con't) Weather July 6 was clear and calm almost all day, with occ. variable breezes. Temperature ranged from 65°–95°F (felt better c̄ so little air movement). Only exceptions were 2 thunderstorms which passed over. These were associated c̄ very high NE winds (15-35 mph, tossing large branches wildly) at 17:30 and 21:45, the latter accompanied by a few large drops of rain.

Species List Simon Canyon:

Amphibians: none

Reptiles: Sceloporus undulatus

Coeniclophorus inornatus

Thamnophis sp. - this animal keyed out as a Checkered garter snake, T. marcianus, but well out of range.

Birds: Canada Goose - H.O. 7/5
Mallard
Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Killdeer - H.O. 7/4
Mourning Dove
Great Horned Owl - pellets found 7/4
Common Nighthawk
Poorwill
White-throated Swift
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Downy Woodpecker - H.O. 7/5
N. (Red-SH) Flicker
W. Wood Pewee
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
Violet-green Swallow
N. Rough-winged Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Scrub Jay
Pinyon Jay
Black-billed Magpie - H.O. 7/5
Common Raven
Black-capped Chickadee
Plain Titmouse

Hoover, John
1991

Journal

Simon Canyon Natural Area, BLM, adjacent to Navajo Dam State Park, San Juan Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

July 3-6 (cont)

Bushtit	Black-headed Grosbeak
White-breasted Nuthatch	Blue Grosbeak
Rock Wren	Rufous-sided Towhee
Canyon Wren	Canyon Towhee
Bewick's Wren	Chipping Sparrow
House Wren	Lark Sparrow
American Robin	Brown-headed Cowbird
Gray Vireo – H.o. 7/4	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Plumbeous Vireo	House Finch
Warbling Vireo	Lesser Goldfinch
Yellow Warbler	
Yellow-breasted Chat	

mammals: bat sp.
raccoon-track
mountain lion track – 7/5
chipmunk sp.
Spermophilus variegatus
Sylvilagus sp.
Odocoileus-track

Travel Day

July 7 I had intended to break camp in the dark and leave Simon Canyon last night but I felt tired, unlikely to drive any distance safely, so I slept the night there and got away early this morning. I travelled west through Farmington, continuing west on U.S. Highway 550, at Shiprock taking NM Highway 504

Journal

Travel Day

July 7 (Navajo Trail) to Tsee Nos Poe, Arizona. There I picked up
(cont) U.S. 160 and continued west. Beyond Black Mesa, I turned northwest onto Arizona Hwy 98 to Page, where I got U.S. Hwy 89. This I followed northwest into Utah, passing through Kanab. At Mt Carmel Junction north of Kanab, I turned west onto Utah State Highway 9, through Zion National Park to the Utah towns of Springdale, Rockville and Grafton. The Virgin River in this area was recommended by Bailey as a possible collecting locality. These are resort towns based on their proximity to Zion National Park, and the river front, while having a fair riparian woodland intermittently, was in the ownership of a succession of motels; the holdings of individual properties were too small to reasonably be expected to provide enough birds. Down river, the riparian vegetation had been either mostly cleared or lost to flood. Where some cottonwoods were visible from the road, I stopped to watch & listen for goldfinches. In four stops I heard none. For some reason I continued to be very tired, and since it was by this time 17:30, I returned to the national park to pitch my sleeping tent, make supper, write notes & turn in early, to make an early start tomorrow.

Weather during the drive was clear until just past Page, Arizona. Then scattered T-clouds were seen to the west. Cloud cover became almost solid while passing through Zion N.P. Rain held off until just after sunset, 21:30, and then it fell as a cloudburst! High temp today was about 85°. I'm guessing, since I spent almost all day in my vehicle.

Species noted at Watchman Campground while writing my notes:

Travel Day

July 7 Herp: Pituophis

Birds (all ✗ Lesser Goldfinch, which come to feeder birds, were H.O.):

White-throated Swift	House Wren
Violet-green Swallow	House Finch
Common Raven	Lesser Goldfinch
Black-capped Chickadee	

mammals: Striped Skunk — rock squirrel

Cliff Chipmunk — mule deer - 3 ♂♂

Beaver Dam Wash & Santa Clara River, Washington Co. Utah.

July 8 From Zion National Park, I followed Utah State Highway 9 west to Interstate Highway 15, going SW about 7 miles to St. George, Utah. Here I turned west at a signed exit for the town of Santa Clara. I passed through Santa Clara on the road continuing northwest toward Gunlock, Utah. At a T-intersection, with the paved road going north and south, I continued instead NW on a gravel road toward Motoqua. After about 13½ miles, I turned south on another gravel road and followed this to the ~~Nature Conservancy~~ Lytle Ranch Reserve, BLM. Beaver Dam Wash property. This property lies between reaches with similar riparian habitat. If, as Belle wrote me, goldfinches were numerous here, I would have sought permission to collect on one or more of the adjacent properties. This was not the case, however.

Beaver Dam Wash is a riparian corridor through an extension of the Colorado Desert into extreme SW Utah, just W of the margin of the Colorado Plateau. Elevation is approx 2750 feet. Associated c̄ the surface water here is an outstanding riparian gallery woodland. This woodland consisted mostly of medium to very large Fremont

Tucker, John
1991

Journal

Beaver Dam Wash & Santa Clara River, Washington Co., Utah

July 8 (con't) cottonwoods, 35–65 feet tall, 1–4 feet dbh. Med. to large ash trees, Russian olive (scarce) and tamarisk (scarce) contributed to the woodland, as did Desert Willow. Black willow was an uncommon woodland component. Wash margins had Joshua trees, mesquites, and luxuriant creosote bushes. The N–S oriented wash divides slopes covered with creosote bush with scattered Opuntia & other cacti and Joshua trees. I visited the wash from 06:30 to 11:00, walking the length of the ~~Nature Conservancy~~ Lytle Ranch Reserve property and about 1/2 mile of the wash on the adjacent property to the north. The only lesser goldfinch recorded answered my Judas birds as I was conversing with the property manager.

After leaving Beaver Dam Wash, I retraced my route back to the pavement, where I turned north toward Gunlock, Utah. This road paralleled the Santa Clara River for about 16 miles, to its terminus at Utah State Highway 18; several dirt tracks left the paved surface toward the river, and most of them I explored at least briefly. Several nice groves of riparian woodland came right to the road edge, and I otherwise walked there. The woodland was mixed cottonwood–black willow–ash–box elder, mostly medium size trees (25–40' tall, 8–24" dbh) but a few cottonwoods were big. Shrubs were mainly desert willow & coyote willow. Away from the riparian growth, vegetation was open juniper–pinyon woodland. The drainage had lots of bare rock exposed. Elevation about 3100 ft. I visited from 13:00 – 17:30. Lots of old (reoriented by yesterday's rain) cow pies.

Weather today hot & clear until noon when thunderclouds began to build in all directions; mostly cloudy after 15:30. No rain today. Light N. breeze until 08:00, then still; S breeze

Tracht, J.
1991

Journal

Beaver Dam Wash and Santa Clara River, Washington Co., Utah

July 8 (Crit) Began about 10:45, just before 4 left Beaver Dam Wash. Occ. gusts 10-15 mph mid-afternoon. Temps today 65°-90°F.

Species list (BDW - seen only Beaver Dam Wash; SCR - seen only Santa Clara River; B - seen both, first number from BDW):

Amphibians: Bufo cognatus - 2, BDW; Rana catesbeiana - 25, BDW

Reptiles: Sceloporus undulatus - B, 8-3; Sceloporus magister - 6, BDW; Sceloporus graciosus - B, 3-4; Callisaurus draconoides - 5, BDW; Cnemidophorus tigris - B, 15-2

Birds: Great Blue Heron - 1, BDW; Green-backed Heron - 1, BDW; Black-crowned Night Heron - 1, BDW; Cinnamon Teal - 1 ♀, BDW; Turkey Vulture - 1, SCR; Red-tailed Hawk - B, 1-1; Killdeer - 4, BDW; White-winged Dove - 8, BDW; Mourning Dove - B, 15-2; Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 2, BDW; Common Nighthawk - 3, BDW; White-throated Swift - B, 2-1; Black-chinned Hummingbird - B, 3-3; Belted Kingfisher - 1, SCR; Ladder-backed Woodpecker - B, 10-4; W. Wood Pewee - 2, SCR; Black Phoebe - B, 1-1; Say's Phoebe - 1, BDW; Vermilion Flycatcher - 1 ♂, BDW; Ash-throated Flycatcher - 75(!), BDW (est. pop. low!); W. Kingbird - B, 15-2; Violet-green Swallow - B, 30-5; Cliff Swallow - 2, SCR; Common Raven - 2, SCR; Verdin - B, 35-2; Cactus Wren - 1, BDW (1 in Joshua tree above wash); Rock Wren - 1, SCR; Bewick's Wren - B, 25-15; Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - 2, BDW; Black-tailed Gnatcatcher - 1, BDW; N. Mockingbird - 10, BDW; Crissal Thrasher - 1, BDW; Loggerhead Shrike - 2, BDW; Bell's Vireo - 6, BDW; Lucy's Warbler - B, 25-10; Yellow Warbler - B, 10-15; Summer Tanager - 8, BDW; Blue Grosbeak - 6, BDW

TROXNET, J.
1991

Journal

Beaver Dam Wash and Santa Clara River, Washington Co., Utah.

July 8 (cont'd)

Alberta Towhee – 2, BDW
Lark Sparrow – 2, BDW
W. Meadowlark – 1, BDW
Brown-headed Cowbird – B, 40-3
Hooded Oriole – 10, BDW
mammals: Spermophilus – 25, BDW
Ammospermophilus – 6, BDW
Castor – 1, BDW (appropriately!)

N. (Bullock's) Oriole – B, 4-1
Scott's Oriole – 6, BDW
House Finch – 50, BDW
Lesser Goldfinch – B, 1-3
House Sparrow – 12, BDW
Sylvilagus – B, 5-1
Lepus – 6, BDW

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 9-11 I drove most of the night: from St. George, Utah through Las Vegas, NV (where I stopped for a late supper) to Barstow, California via Interstate 15. In Barstow, I picked up State Highway 58, which I took to Bakersfield. I thought about rolling on home up Hwy 99, but I decided to get in a few days on the South Fork of the Kern River before Jeannie (my wife) needed me home. I drove NE from Bakersfield on State Hwy 178, past Lake Isabella. I drove up Kelso Valley Rd (to SE) to Cane ~~Spring~~ Wash, a dirt track through desert scrub, to get a few hours sleep off a main road. I was surprised – no, thrilled – when a mountain lion ran across the "road" through the beam of my headlights. After a fairly sluggish start to the day, I went to visit Pam Williams and Stephen Taylor at their home on the property of the Kern River Reserve, ON FAY RANCH RD, N. OF WELDON 1 MILE. After 90 minutes of chewing the fat and my admiring their pet acorn woodpecker repeatedly, Stephen consented to give me a tour of the area. In the three hours we were out, we visited only a bit of

Greene, John
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 9-11 (cont'd) Kern River Reserve itself, since I would not be permitted to collect goldfinches on the property. We drove Kelso Creek Road SE of Weldon, a road paralleling a desert creek with intermittent riparian woodland, but this area was not productive for goldfinches. We then visited the South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, the parcel just W. of the reserve, & likewise having the river course through it. The place was alive with lesser goldfinches. We first visited an area on the N. side of the river accessible off Sierra Way (the road to Kernville). Then, since Lake Isabella was so low, and had been for a few seasons, we visited the young riparian growth that had covered some of the former lake bottom on the west side of the property. We then drove the south shore of Lake Isabella, scoping the lake and shore for birds. Clearly, the wildlife area would easily provide for my sample needs.

The habitat at the South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area is a Fremont Cottonwood-dominated riparian woodland on the wide broad flood plain of the South fork of the Kern. The river valley here is bounded on the N. by the Southern Sierra Nevada, on the E. by the Scodie Mountains, on the S. by the Painter Hills, and on the W. by Lake Isabella and the Greenhorn Mountains beyond. The floodplain is 1-2 miles broad and pretty flat for about seven miles above Lake Isabella. The wildlife area is that portion of the flood plain's riparian area W. of Sierra Way, apparently extending all the way to the lake, now some 3½-4 miles distant. In addition to cottonwoods there is a considerable admixture of Goodding's Willow and Red, with seeming age/size classes of trees

TRICHET, J
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co. California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 9-11 (cont) covering areas along the river course, with discrete boundaries to these age/size class areas. In general, age/size of woodland trees increase with distance from the lake. There were a couple of pockets of ~~my~~ much larger trees among the "short stuff" down stream immediately adjacent to the river channel. W. of Sierra Way surface water was first intermittent (for about 3/4 mile), then absent — except for a small (10 x 12 ft) pond near the western-most fence on the property (the lakeshore appears normally to extend to this limit). To the east on the property, trees are commonly 35-50' tall, 2-3½' dbh; moderate size trees predominate in the broad middle; and to the west the riparian growth is obviously young — small trees 20-30' tall, 5-8" dbh, and at the west end the woodland is dominated by willows. In the E. and middle portions of the Wildlife Area, the woodland ~~is~~ are suitable for much down timber and a dense understory of shrubs and herbs. Nettles, many different grasses, Helianthus, Thistles, Russian thistles, stinkweed, some coyote willows, some typha along the stream course, and many, many others. Long cut off channels & their riparian strips were separated from the current stream course by expanses of grass with wildflowers admixed.

I placed nets in the early evening beneath the large trees on the east side of the wildlife area and returned to Paris & Stephen's home for supper and bed(!), to open the nets & catch goldfinches first thing in the morning.

Weather July 9 was clear all day, except a few clouds to the east around 08:00. Wind came up around 09:30, becoming sua-

Lucas, Joan
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 9-11 (cont) rained after 11:00 at 5-10 mph out of W. After 14:30 higher gusts to 25 mph became common. Temp. range 55°-85°F.

July 10, I opened my nets 05:35-05:45 and walked the woodlands between checking for birds. Netting started slowly, and I moved two nets farther downstream, adjacent to a grassy field with lots of Helianthus. This was much more successful a setting for netting goldfinches. Over the course of the morning I caught 7 C. psaltria in my nets and saw several C. lawrencei and 3 C. tristis. This is the first place I have visited that Red Rd summer occupation by all three. I also caught one C. lawrencei and sustained the mist net death of one melospiza melodia (not come out of shade). The majority of the afternoon and evening I spent recording and putting up birds, the nets being closed at 14:00.

Weather June 10 was similar to yesterday, with temperatures 55°-85°F in shade, but no clouds were seen all day, and no gusty winds came up in the afternoon, only the light W. breeze.

June 11 was a frustratingly slow day. I moved the 2 nets not moved yesterday at 08:30, since few goldfinches seemed to be in their vicinity. The two nets near the Helianthus field caught few birds, all non-goldfinches, though lesser goldfinches remained fairly numerous in the adjacent field. At 2-3 hour intervals, I hop-skotched pairs of mist nets increasingly westward, into younger woodland. In surveying the last half mile of cottonwoods and willows, I found 5 Yellow-billed Cuckoos, a group completely unknown to Steve Laymon, who is closely following what few birds he knows of on the S. Fork Kern River. These apparently had

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 9-11 (cont) mentioned only 7. Steve was surprised & delighted to hear of these additional birds in habitat he had considered insufficiently grown up. I caught one goldfinch at 10:45, and spent the rest of the day. The net placement seemed perfect — shaded spots near wild flower fields dominated by wild sunflower, with very little wind to disturb the nets. At the end of the day, I drove home.

Weather July 11 was virtually a carbon copy of yesterday's, except there was almost no wind all day. Cloudless skies, temps 55°-85°F (due to lack of wind, it felt considerably warmer in the sun).

Species list from South Fork Kern River (most water birds from L. Isabella)

Amphibians: Bufo boreas — Scaphiopus sp
Hyla regilla

Reptiles: Diposaurus dorsalis — Cnemidophorus tigris
Sceloporus occidentalis — Thamnophis sp.
Sceloporus magister

Birds: Pied-billed Grebe — Red-tailed Hawk
Western Grebe — Golden Eagle
Clark's Grebe — American Kestrel
Great Blue Heron — Wild Turkey (track)
Mallard — California Quail
Cinnamon Teal — American Coot
Redhead — Killdeer
Turkey Vulture — Spotted Sandpiper
Osprey (nest) — Least Sandpiper
Cooper's Hawk — Mourning Dove

TROCHET, J.
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 9-11 (cont)

Yellow-billed Cuckoo	House Wren
Barn Owl	American Robin
Great Horned Owl	Loggerhead Shrike
Black-chinned Hummingbird	European Starling
Belted Kingfisher	Yellow Warbler
Nuttall's Woodpecker	Common Yellowthroat
Downy Woodpecker	Yellow-breasted Chat
Hairy Woodpecker	Summer Tanager
N. (Red-Sh.) Flicker	Black-headed Grosbeak
W. Wood Pewee	Blue Grosbeak.
Willow Flycatcher	Lazuli Bunting
Black Phoebe	Indigo Bunting
Say's Phoebe	Rufous-sided Towhee
Ash-Throated Flycatcher	Lark Sparrow
Brown-crested Flycatcher	Savannah Sparrow
W. Kingbird	Song Sparrow
Horned Lark	Red-winged Blackbird
Tree Swallow	Tricolored Blackbird
N. Rough-winged Swallow	W. Meadowlark
Cliff Swallow	Yellow-headed Blackbird
Barn Swallow	Brewer's Blackbird
Common Raven	Brown-headed Cowbird
Plain Titmouse	Hooded Oriole
Cactus Wren	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Rock Wren	House Finch
Bewick's Wren	Lesser Goldfinch

TRACHET, J.
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet

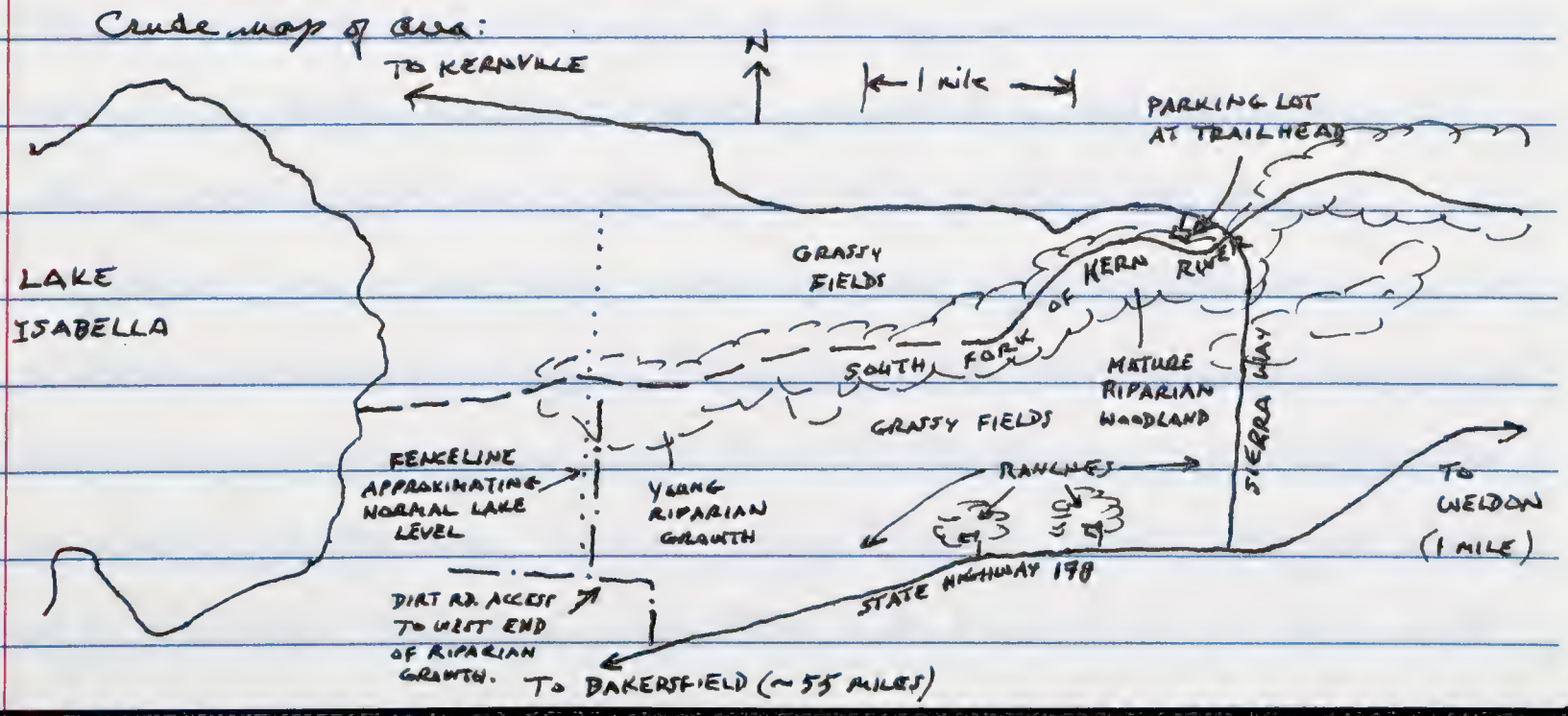
July 9-11 (cont'd)

Lawrence's Goldfinch — House Sparrow
American Goldfinch - 3 (7/10)

mammals: Striped Skunk - 5 on 7/9!! — Gopher mounds
mountain lion - lots of tracks — Lepus
Spermophilus — Sylvilagus
Ammospermophilus — Odocoileus - Track
Microtus - runways — Bos
Dipodomys - Tracks — Equus

July 18-21 I returned to South Fork Kern River from Sacramento via California State Highway 99 to Bakersfield to Hwy 178 beyond Lake Isabella to Sierra Way to the trailhead for the Wildlife Area, arriving 19:00 in time to set up nets for the morrow. The hiatus away from South Fork Kern River was necessary to provide care for my daughters while my wife was away at her family practice recertification exams. In laying out the mist nets, I discovered an area in which Lawrence's Goldfinch were very common. Here I set up 2 nets. The other 2 were placed not far from the parking area at the trailhead. Ken to bed.

Crude map of area:



TRACHET, J.
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 18-21 (con't) On July 19, I opened my mist nets at 05:20-05:35 to begin a crazy busy day. The nets in the area with lots of Lawrence's Goldfinches caught ten birds early. One of these escaped from me when I extracted it from the net. Similarly successful were the other 2 nets with regard to Lesser Goldfinches: by 09:40, I had nine psaltria, too. The remainder of the day, right up to midnight, was devoted to recording and preparing specimens.

The weather this morning July 19, from 05:20 to 10:00, was clear & calm, with temps 50°—65°F.

July 20 started late, since I overslept the dawn. The breezes today came up early, and being variable, it was difficult to place the nets in sites sheltered from them. In contrast to yesterday's too phenetic pace, today was very slow. Nets were moved every 3-4 hours throughout the day, again downstream into usually younger groves of riparian trees. Steve Laymon visited in the afternoon. He showed me a cuckoo nest he found in the miniature willow-cottonwood strip near the western limit of the trees.

The weather July 20: temps range 55°—85°F, with variable breezes beginning 07:30 and increasing and becoming more consistently westerly after 13:15. A few scattered clouds passed by in the afternoon. A steady 10-15 mph W. wind blew after 15:00 until after sunset.

July 21 was a good day, with capture of goldfinches (lesser) at a steady rate all morning. Recording birds between net visits, I was ready at noon for a quick lunch, then to put up birds for the remainder of the day. I was going to return home tonight, but I will sleep tonight in my tent and drive back to Sacramento

Lucas, John
1991

Journal

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 18-21 tomorrow morning

(cont) Weather July 21: dawn clear, calm, 50°F. High today about 85°F. Light W. breeze after 09:30, increasing to 5-10 mph after 11:00. Partly cloudy & W. winds 10-20 mph p 14:00. Pretty sunset today.

Species list:

Amphibians: Bufo boreas — Hyla regilla

Reptiles: Sceloporus occidentalis — Thamnophis cercai

Sceloporus magister

Birds: Great Blue Heron — Black Phoebe

Turkey Vulture — Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Red-shouldered Hawk — W. Kingbird

Red tailed Hawk — Horned Lark

American Kestrel — Tree Swallow

Wild Turkey — most found — N. Rough-winged Swallow

California Quail — Cliff Swallow

Killdeer — Common Raven

Mourning Dove — Plain Titmouse

Yellow-billed Cuckoo — Rock Wren

Barn Owl — Bewick's Wren

Great Horned Owl — House Wren

Black-chinned Hummingbird — American Robin

Rufous Hummingbird — European Starling

Nuttall's Woodpecker — Yellow Warbler

Downy Woodpecker — Common Yellowthroat

N. (Red-shafted) Flicker — Yellow-breasted Chat

W. Wood Pewee — Summer Tanager

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

July 18-21 (cont) Black-headed Grosbeak — W. Meadowlark
Blue Grosbeak — Brewer's Blackbird
Lazuli Bunting — Brown-headed Cowbird
Indigo Bunting — N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Rufous-sided Towhee — House Finch
Lark Sparrow — Lesser Goldfinch
Song Sparrow — Lawrence's Goldfinch
Red-winged Blackbird — House Sparrow
Tricolored Blackbird

mammals: Striped Skunk — Lynx
Mountain Lion — track — Sylvilagus
Black Bear — track, fresh scats — Odocoileus — tracks
Spermophilus — Bos
Gopher mounds — Equus

Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation ft.

July 26 I arrived here from Sacramento by a less-than-direct route: I travelled Interstate 80 to Berkeley to drop some stuff off at my office, arriving at Berkeley about midnight. From UCB I travelled State Hwy 13 to Interstate 580 to Interstate 5, to Interstate 210, to Interstate 10 to State Hwy 62. In Yucca Valley I turned NW onto Pioneertown Road. I looked for the U.C. Burns reserve near Pioneertown, but I couldn't find it. At least 2 early-rising village residents hadn't heard of it. I retreated to Yucca Valley and south on Hwy 62 to the town of Morongo

Journal

Trocaire, John
1991

Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation ft.

July 26 (con't) Valley. Here on the east side of town is the Nature Conservancy Big Morongo Reserve. I spent from 08:15 to 11:15 on the reserve property. I walked Cottonwood, Willow, Old Ranch, and parts of Desert Wash and Canyon Trails. Weather was clear & warm, c̄ 5-10 mph NW breezes c̄ a few periods of calm, particularly when I first arrived. Temperature 80°-95°F. With a few exceptions, (chats, towhees) birds were already very quiet.

Riparian areas here are fed by the surface appearance of Big Morongo Creek, which arises from subsurface flow on the property. There are also said to be a few springs arising on the property & contributing to the creek's flow. There are scattered large old cottonwoods to ~4 ft dbh, many to 3 ft dbh, but most of the riparian ~~overstory~~ canopy trees ~~are~~ is willows. Many of these are 15-24" dbh. The understory is rich and varied, c̄ lots of herbs and some coyote willow. There are a few ashes, but I didn't see a single large tree. In places where there were small marshes, Scirpus & Typha grew in dense stands. In some places these grew as understory to the willows, as did Equisetum. The Desert Wash trail was dominated by Desert Willow & Mesquite, with Opuntia, grasses and some Larrea scattered in. Upland benches to the N. and E. were not explored, but these had Joshua Trees, creosote bush, ~~and~~ some ocotillo, more Opuntia & lots of other plants I'm sure. Canyon Trail was like other riparian trails except the riparian canopy was less continuous. There were also a couple large oaks at one locality. The whole green belt was about 100

TRACHET, J.

1991

Journal

Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation ft.

July 26 (cont) yards wide, confined by canyon walls on which very little grew.

Species list:

amphibians: none

Reptiles: *Sceloporus magister* — *Cnemidophorus tigris*

Callisaurus draconoides

birds: Great Blue Heron – 1	Verdin – 15, mostly H.O.
Red-tailed Hawk – 1 ad, 1 imm.	Bushtit – 10
American Kestrel – 1 H.O.	House Wren – 6 (4 juveniles)
Gambel's Quail – 45; others heard	Bewick's Wren – 20, mostly juv
White-winged Dove – 2	Canyon Wren – 3 H.O.
Mourning Dove – 35; nest	Rock Wren – 7, mostly H.O.
Greater Roadrunner – 2	Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher – 3
Great Horned Owl – 1	N. Mockingbird – 4
Lesser Nighthawk – 2	Calif. Thrasher – 5: 1 ad + 4 juvs
Black-chinned Hummer – 4 ♀	European Starling – 3
Anna's Hummingbird – 6: 2 ♂, 4 ♀	Bell's Vireo – 1 H.O.
Rufous Hummer – 2 ♂	Orange-crowned Warbler – 1
Selasphorus sp – 5	Virginia's Warbler – 2
Ladder-backed Woodpecker – 1 ♀	Lucy's Warbler – 2
W. Kingbird – 1	Yellow Warbler – 10
Brown-crested Flycatcher – 3	Black-throated Gray W. – 1
Ash-throated Flycatcher – 18, mostly juv.	Common Yellowthroat – 7
Black Phoebe – 2 ad, 3 juv.	Yellow-breasted Chat – 9 H.O.
Scrub Jay – 3 juv; 3 others H.O.	Summer Tanager – 7, mostly H.O.
Common Raven – 3	~~W. Meadowlark – 5~~
Plain Titmouse – 2 H.O.	~~Hooded Oriole – 1 H.O.~~

Tucson, Ariz
1991

Journal

Big Morongo Reserve, Morongo Valley, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation ft.

July 26 (cont) Black-headed Grosbeak – 4
Lazuli Bunting – 5
Rufous-sided Towhee – 18
Black-throated Sparrow – 2
Song Sparrow – 20
W. Meadowlark – 5
Brewer's Blackbird – 2
Brown-headed Cowbird – 8
Hooded Oriole – 1 H.O.
N. (Bullock's) Oriole – 3 H.O.
House Finch – 12
Lesser Goldfinch – 35 ♂♂ all green-backs
Lawrence's Goldfinch – 1
House Sparrow – 3

memorable: Racoon & deer track

Bene Point, Salt River, Maricopa Co., Arizona

July 26 Many years ago (in the 1970's) I read of a large, undisturbed cottonwood-willow bosque on the Salt River NE of Phoenix, Arizona. The area was called Bene Point Cottonwoods. I arrived at Bene Point on the Salt River from Big Morongo at 18:45 MST, having taken State Hwy 62 to Interstate 10, to University Avenue, to the Bush Highway. There is a U.S. Forest Service complex there, at which I called. An USFS employee had heard of the place, and pointed to the scattered, leafless snags to the N. He said a fire had destroyed the woodland, and the dead trees were all that remained. He knew of no other substantial riparian woodland nearby. He suggested looking at Sycamore Creek or further up U.S. Highway 87 toward Payson. As it was fast getting dark, I napped for a couple hours before heading E. via Interstate 10.

Trocaz, John
1991

Journal

South Fork Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona

July 27 I arrived just before dawn having driven (and intermittently slept) through the night via Interstate 10 to Benson, Arizona then southeast via Arizona State Highways 186 & 181 to USFS roads over Onion Saddle to S. Fork of Cave Creek. I enjoyed a quick bowl of Wheaties and hit the trail at 05:15, still a bit dark to see much, but the dawn chorus was in progress, and concluded abruptly at 05:40. I hiked the main trail from the end of the road to Snowshed Ridge, 4½ miles one way. The weather was splendid all day. Temps 55°F–80°F, with variable light breezes. There were a few clouds to the E. at sunrise (stunning!), otherwise clear until about 14:30 when a few thunder clouds passed by. I left the area at 16:30 p̄ eating lunch, rearranging the vehicle, & attending to personal cleanliness.

This is a well known place to biologists and birders alike. I'm sure the vegetation has been more accurately described elsewhere, but I offer the following sketch anyway. The vegetation here changes gradually as one ascends the canyon. The canyon walls themselves are spectacular in places, riddled with pot-holes, larger caves, and clefts. Their reddish color is often overwhelmed by lichens imparting their gray-green mottling. In the vicinity of the campground, the woodland is dominated by oaks of at least 4 species. Other larger trees include a few sycamores (commoner upstream & much commoner downstream), Arizona cypress, madrones, alligator junipers, and a few ponderosa pines. Ash trees are rare, though seedlings were fairly numerous. There were a few maples there, too. At Maple Camp, 1½ mi

Terrell, J.
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Journal

South Fork Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona

July 27 (cont) miles above the trailhead, one has gained little elevation, but but the cypresses and madrones have dropped out by and large, as have the sycamores, small & medium-sized maples are more common along the creek. Coyote willow appears in a few lines along the stream course. Douglas-fir appear amongst the pines (2 species at least here). Slopes are covered with evergreen, pinyon-juniper and evergreen oaks on the less steeply inclined W. side and with mixed conifers on the E. side. From here to Sunrise Ridge, there is progressive dominance of conifers, until pure Douglas-fir with a few pines and oaks are found in the last 3/4 mile below the ridge. The understory is rich, with many forbs & grasses, as well as seedling trees. I am a very poor botanist, and will leave the description as is. The stream is intermittent in its surface flow. Some of the larger "holes" have rainbow trout to 7½". In the last 3/4 mile below Sunrise Ridge, stream flow is entirely subsurface.

Species list:

Amphibians: none

Reptiles: Yarrow's Spiny Lizard, Plateau Striped Lizard, Desert Spiny Lizard, Banded Rock Rattlesnake.

Birds: Turkey Vulture-3, Mourning Dove-4, Accipiter sp.-1, W. Screech-Owl-1 H.O., Zone-tailed Hawk-1 imm, Great Horned Owl-1, Red-tailed Hawk-2 ad, 1 imm, N. Pygmy-Owl-1, Peregrine-1 ad (prob ♂), Poorwill-3 H.O., Gambel's Quail-3; many others H.O., W. Whip-poor-will-2 H.O., Band-tailed Pigeon-6, White-throated Swift-40

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Journal

South Fork Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mountains Cochise Co., Arizona

July 27 (cont'd)

Broad-billed Hummingbird – 1♀
Blue-throated Hummer – 1♂, 3♀
Magnificent Hummer – 10♂, 5♀
Black-chinned Hummer – 8♀
Broad-tailed Hummer – 4♂ H.O.
Rufous Hummingbird – 1♂
Selasphorus sp. – 6
Hummingbird sp. – 30
Elegant Trogon – 4♂ ad, 1♂ imm, 1♀
Acorn Woodpecker – 30
Hairy Woodpecker – 2
Strickland's Woodpecker – 4
Red-shafted Flicker – 18
Gilded Flicker – 1♂ I HAVE NOT SEEN THIS BIRD IN THIS PLACE BEFORE.
Greater Pewee
W. Wood Pewee
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Red-throated Flycatcher
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Violet-green Swallow
Steller's Jay
Gray-breasted Jay
Common Raven
Mexican Chickadee
Bridled Titmouse
Bushtit
Red-breasted Nuthatch
White-breasted Nuthatch
Pygmy Nuthatch
Brown Creeper
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Hermit Thrush
American Robin
Gray Vireo – 1♂ H.O. FIRST I'VE DETECTED HERE
Plumbeous Vireo
Hutton's Vireo
Virginia's Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Yellow rumped (AUDUBON'S) Warbler
Grace's Warbler
Red-faced Warbler
Painted Redstart
Olive Warbler
Hepatic Tanager
W. Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Rufous-sided Towhee
Chipping Sparrow
Yellow-eyed Junco
Brown-headed Cowbird

Tucker, J.C.
1991

Journal

South Fork Cave Creek, Chiricahua Mountains, Cochise Co, Arizona

July 27 (cont'd)

Scott's Oriole — House Finch

mammals: small Canis-track — Chipmunk sp. — 15

Hog-nosed Skunk — 1 — Apache Fox Squirrel — 12, good #

coati mundi — 1 ♂ — Orig. White-tailed Deer — 2

Carr and Ramsey Canyons, Huachuca Mountains, Cochise Co, Arizona

July 28 I arrived here last night after sunset via Portal-Sanderson Rd to Interstate 10 W., to US Hwy 80, to U.S. Hwy 92, which parallels the eastern base of the Huachuca Mountains. I first drove up Miller Canyon, the most southern of the 3 east side canyons with roads ascending them, but all obvious campsites were occupied. I then drove up Carr Canyon, the next canyon north. Well up the road I encountered someone listening for owls. He suggested trying the campground at the end of the road. This I did. I made camp at 22:15 en plein air. Hurriedly I put up my tent when it started raining at midnight. I arose at 05:10 this am., wolfed down a banana & some wheaties and drove to my first trailhead.

This was near the group (=SCA) camp one mile down the road from my camp at road's end. The trail taken off opposite the S. entrance of the group campground and heads uphill gently. Most of the high country of the Huachucas was burned about a decade ago, or maybe longer now (LATE 1970's?). I walked (starting at 05:25) to the first pocket of mostly unburned forest, and finding no spring (I was looking for Comfort Spring), I returned to the car and to the trailhead near my camp. I started down this at 06:30.

Journal

Carr and Ramsey Canyons, Huachuca Mountains, Cochise Co, Arizona

July 28 (cont) I passed Comfort Springs (not very impressive) to crossing a lively little freshet c̄ mostly unburned forest on its immediate margins where the trail crosses near its headwaters. The trail continued to a saddle beyond the spring, going through a small remnant of unburned forest before reaching this saddle. Beyond the saddle, one is in the Ramsey Canyon drainage, seemingly unscarred by the huge fire. The trail descends to the left toward the headwaters of Ramsey Creek. In about 1½ miles, one reaches the creek at "Hamburg." I hiked the 2.5 miles from there down canyon to Mile High Ranch at the end of Ramsey Canyon Road. After birding about an hour there, I hiked back to the Ramsey Vireo Campground at the top of Carr Canyon, exactly retracing my route in the process. I arrived at Mile High Ranch at 09:45; I left at 10:55; I was back at my campsite at 15:00, exhausted. I ate lunch & took a nap until 17:00. I will break camp and leave for Carlsbad, New Mexico area tonight.

As with any 10 mile hike over substantial elevation range and slope and exposure differences, habitats varied significantly. Where the coniferous forest on top was burned, the habitat has been claimed by a dense chaparral; where unburned, pines grew 50-60' tall. In beautiful Ramsey Canyon, the upper portion was mixed coniferous forest of pines and Douglas-fir. As one descended the canyon bottom, madrones, sycamores, and live oaks became more numerous. In the vicinity of Mile High Ranch, there was an open, discontinuous riparian woodland of cottonwood, willow & some walnut. Mile High was host to fabulous hummingbirds.

Weather today was very nice until about 14:00, when it

TROCHET, J.
1991

Journal

Carr and Ramsey Canyons, Huachuca Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona

July 28 (cont) quickly clouded up and winds became gusty. Lightning & thunder enlivened the last 1½ miles back to camp and it poured the stretch from Comfort Springs to Ramsey View Camp. Temperatures ranged from 55°–90°F.

Species list:

Herps: none

Birds

Turkey Vulture
N. Goshawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Golden Eagle
American Kestrel
Wild Turkey
White-winged Dove
Mourning Dove
N. Pygmy-Owl
Common Nighthawk
White-throated Swift
Broad-billed Hummer
White-eared Hummer
Berylline Hummer – ♀ on nest Hide Hi
Violet-crowned Hummer
Blue-throated Hummer
Magnificent Hummer
Black-chinned Hummer
Anna's Hummingbird
Calliope Hummer
Broad-tailed Hummer
Rufous Hummingbird
Selasphorus sp
Elegant Trogon
[Eared Trogon – seen in Ramsey Canyon by others today]
Acorn Woodpecker
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Strickland's Woodpecker
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker
Greater Pewee
W. Wood-Pewee
Cordilleran Flycatcher
Buff-breasted Flycatcher
Black Phoebe
Dusky-capped Flycatcher
Red-throated Flycatcher
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
Violet-green Swallow
Steller's Jay
Gray-breasted Jay
Common Raven

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1991

Journal

Carr & Ramsey Canyons, Huachuca Mountains, Cochise Co., Arizona

July 28 (cont)

Bridled Titmouse	Plumbeous Vireo
Bushtit	Hutton's Vireo
	Warbling Vireo
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Yellow-rumped (Audubon's) W.
White-breasted Nuthatch	Black-throated Gray Warbler
Pygmy Nuthatch	Red-faced Warbler
Brown Creeper	Painted Redstart
Canyon Wren	Olive Warbler
Bewick's Wren	Hepatic Tanager
House Wren	W. Tanager
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Black-headed Grosbeak
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Rufous-sided Towhee
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Chipping Sparrow
Eastern Bluebird	Yellow-eyed Junco
Hermit Thrush	Brown-headed Cowbird
American Robin	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Phainopepla	House Finch
European Starling	Red Crossbill - type 2

mammals: coyote
chipmunk sp.
Arizona Gray Squirrel
porcupine - sign
Arizona White-tailed Deer

Washington Ranch and the Rattlesnake Springs part of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet

July 29 I arrived today per request of Peggy Barton, manager of the Carlsbad Area Retarded Citizens Residence, also known as the Washington Ranch. I expected to meet her today to get the go-ahead to collect goldfinches as I had done in August 1989. One of us

Journal

Washington Ranch and the Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 ft.

July 29 (Cont'd) misunderstood, since she is absent this morning and won't return until tomorrow. I will spend the day birding the ranch & adjacent NPS properties. I stayed on the properties from 10:20 to 19:30

For a general description of the area see my notes of August, 1989. Significant differences seem limited only to the greener condition of the surrounding desert and to higher water level & flow in the Black River. Tent caterpillars are abundant in the cottonwoods.

Weather today saw temps. range from 85°–95°F. Morning was partly cloudy; it was completely cloudy by 14:15. Intermittent light S. breeze. Only precip a brief sprinkle at 12:35.

Species list:

Amphibians: Rana catesbeiana – H.O. Leopard frog sp. – 10

Reptiles: snake (Thamnophis?) – red-orange stripe(s) on black background head not seen.

Birds: Pied-billed Grebe – H.O. Cordiles sp. – 1

Green-backed Heron – 2 ad, 1 imm Black-chinned Hummer – 40

Mallard – 1 ♀ Belted Kingfisher – 1 ♂

Turkey Vulture – 45 Ladder-backed Woodpecker – 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 6 u

Cooper's Hawk – 1 ad, 2 imm W. Wood-Pewee – 2

Red-Tailed Hawk – 1 subad. Willow Flycatcher – 2

Wild Turkey – 4, others H.O. Black Phoebe 3

N. Bobwhite – 1 ♂, others H.O. Say's Phoebe – 8

American Coot – 2 Vermilion Flycatcher – 1 ♂, ♀ & 2 juv.

Killdeer – 2 Cassin's Kingbird – 15

Mourning Dove – 30 W. Kingbird – 4

Violet-green Swallow – 2

Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 20 (4 young) Cave Swallow – 4

Lesser Nighthawk – 1 Barn Swallow – 30

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1991

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Washington Ranch and Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 29 (Cont'd)

swallow sp. – 10
Cowies sp – 1
Verdin – 6
Bewick's Wren – 8
E. Bluebird – 1 ad, 3 juvs
N. Mockingbird – 5
Bell's Vireo – 15, mostly H.O.
Warbling Vireo – 2
[Red-eyed Vireo – 1 A. & V. WATERS AUGUSTA, GEORGIA]
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1
N. Parula – 1 ♂ imm
Common Yellowthroat – 1
Yellow-breasted Chat – 30, mostly H.O.
mammals: striped skunk – 2
coyote – scat
rock squirrel – 4 ad, 2 juv

Summer Tanager – 12, mostly H.O.
W. Tanager – 15 (3♂, 3♀, others H.O.)
Black-headed Grosbeak – 1♂, 2♀, 1 H.O.
Blue Grosbeak – 18, mostly H.O.
Indigo Bunting 5♂, 1♀
Painted Bunting – 12 (3♂, 5♀♀, others H.O.)
Lark Sparrow – 3
Red-winged Blackbird – 5♂
Brown-headed Cowbird – 50, mostly in one flock.
Orchard Oriole – 8 ad ♂, 3 imm ♂, 4♀
N. Oriole – 12, mostly H.O.
House Finch – 35
Lesser Goldfinch – 120
raccoon track
pocket gopher sp – 4
mule deer – 6

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3560 feet.

July 30 – August 2

I camped last night in lower Rocky Arroyo, on the road to Dog Canyon, about 25 minutes from here. (That's the closest legal camping, on BLM land.) I arrived here at 06:45. I walked around Rattlesnake Springs for a couple hours & chatted with Mrs. Burton. By 09:00, I obtained permission from Peggy Burton to both camp & take lunch and to collect birds. By 10:00 I had my tents up and 2 nets deployed.

Frank, John
1991

Journal

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs part of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet

July 30-August 2 (cont'd) Goldfinches were far less numerous today. Their favorite food sources, thistle and wild sunflower (Helianthus), are abundant here this year. Disappointing was my net success for goldfinches today, but I caught lots of birds.

Weather July 30 was sunny dawn til noon, then mostly sunny to 14:30, then 1/2 clear 1/2 cloudy to 19:00, after which skies progressively cleared. Temperatures ranged from 65°–95°F. There was little breeze in the morning, intermittent 5-10 mph S. winds in the afternoon. Dusk was still.

July 31, I caught no goldfinches early, and moved my nets twice before beginning to catch my study organism. Beginning about 11:30, I started catching goldfinches steadily. I showed note that goldfinch numbers halved again today. They're really moving out of here. Those remaining show every evidence of continuing breeding (S.A.).

After this morning's slow start, I visited nearby Slaughter Canyon, CCNP, approx 10 miles W. of Washington Ranch. I spent about 45 minutes there, ending at 10:15. Lower Slaughter Canyon is about 250-400 yards wide, & several scoured dry channels in it. Fairly recently the vegetation spread over a large area of the lower canyon. There are many dead mesquite snags and yuccas. Vegetation is of catclaw acacia, yucca, prickly pear, cholla, other cacti, scotillo, desert willow, desert holly, and this year lots of green grass & wildflowers. There are many other plants I can't identify, but the aspect is one of much bare cobble, most vegetation 3-5' high, & scattered emergent yuccas (spikes), scotillo, mesquite & other larger trees & bushes. The wash vegetation is taller and more densely grown, and

Tucson, Ariz
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Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 30 - August 2 (cont'd)

greener, than that on the slopes. At Rim Rock level, the canyon is probably about ½ mile wide. There are several exposures of vertical rock.

The weather today was a carbon copy of that of July 30 - truly!

On August 1, I got shut out for Cardueline at my nets - except for one finch. The only goldfinch taken was by dust shot. The number of Lesser Goldfinches on the property & at adjacent Rattlesnake Springs is about 25. Today was a very slow day.

Weather August 1 was less humid-feeling, with less dew at dawn. There were lots of high cirrus clouds at sunrise, which quickly dissipated. The remainder of the morning was clear & calm. A light S. breeze came up about noon. Truly huge thunderclouds over the Guadalupe Mountains to the West brought dusk 90 minutes early. Temperatures ranged from 60°F to 90°F.

On August 2, I again moved nets twice during the day, but my target birds continued to diminish in numbers. I estimate only 15 goldfinches were around today. Of these I secured two in my nets. I have concluded that I will be unable to fill out my samples this year. I will have to return next season. I need more adult males than I have been able to obtain.

The weather August 2 saw light NE winds at dawn, & cirrus clouds in every direction. These clouds soon gave way to blue skies, until about 11:00, when thunderclouds began building over the Guadalupes. These built to staggering size, then some drifted east over Washington Ranch about 13:45. There was a brief, hard rain at 14:30, followed by a spring-like steady light-mod. rain from 15:15 to 16:15. Skies slowly cleared after that, so that by 19:30

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Jones, John
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Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 30 – August 2 (sunset), the few clouds that remained were over the mountains to the west. Fireflies were out as I left at 21:30.

(cont) 4 numbers indicate totals for consecutive days

Species List (abbrev's: W.R., Washington Ranch; R.S., Rattlesnake Springs; S.C., Slaughter Canyon; no locality – numbers lumped for W.R. & R.S.):

Amphibians: Rana catesbeiana 40-6-3-6 Scaphiopus multiplicata 0-0-1-0 (WR)

Rana blairi 18-8-5-10 Scaphiopus bombifrons 0-0-0-1 (RS)

reptiles: Pseudemys scripta WR: Leptotyphlops dulcis 1-000 (RS.)

Pseudemys concinna WR: Pituophis – 0-1-0-0 (SC.)

Great Plains Skink Thamnophis sp – 0-0-1-0 (R.S.)

Chihuahuan Whiptail Elaphe sp – S.C. 7/31 – 1; OUT OF RANGE?

Checkered Whiptail Crotalus atrox S.C. 7/31 – 1; 4½'

3rd Cnemidophorus sp.

Birds: Pied-billed Grebe – W.R. 8/1 – 1 Greater Roadrunner

Green-backed Heron – ad. on nest W.R. 8/1 Great Horned Owl

Mallard Common Poorwill

Turkey Vulture Black-chinned Hummer

N. Harrier Belted Kingfisher

Swainson's Hawk Ladder-backed Woodpecker

Red-tailed Hawk Western Wood-Pewee

Wild Turkey Willow Flycatcher

N. Bobwhite Black Phoebe

Scaled Quail Say's Phoebe

American Coot Vermilion Flycatcher

Killdeer Ash-throated Flycatcher

Mourning Dove Cassin's Kingbird

Yellow-billed Cuckoo Western Kingbird

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Journal

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 30 - August 2 (con't)

Eastern Kingbird	Western Tanager
Violet-green Swallow	N. Cardinal
Cliff Swallow	Pyrrhuloxia
Cave Swallow	Black-headed Grosbeak
swallow sp.	Blue Grosbeak
Verdin	Lazuli Bunting
Cactus Wren	Indigo Bunting
Rock Wren	Painted Bunting
Canyon Wren	Cassin's Sparrow
Bewick's Wren	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Eastern Bluebird	Chipping Sparrow
N. Mockingbird	Lark Sparrow
Curve-billed Thrasher	Black-throated Sparrow
Loggerhead Shrike	Lark Bunting
Bell's Vireo	Red-winged Blackbird
Gray Vireo	E. Meadowlark
Warbling Vireo	Bronzed Cowbird
Red-eyed Vireo	Brown-headed Cowbird
Orange-crowned Warbler	Orchard Oriole
N. Parula	Hooded Oriole
American Redstart	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Prothonotary Warbler	House Finch
Common Yellowthroat	Pine Siskin
Yellow-breasted Chat	Lesser Goldfinch
Hepatic Tanager	
Summer Tanager	

Texas, John
1991

Journal

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 30 – mammals: Canis – track
August 2 (cont'd)
Striped Skunk
small bat sp
mouse sp
rock squirrel
Dipodomys sp
pocket gopher sp
Erethizon
Lepus
Sylvilagus
Odocoileus

Dila River, 4 miles downstream from Highway 180 bridge, Dila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation 4350 ft.

August 5-7 I left Washington Ranch to find a field site in south-central New Mexico. I drove first to Aguirre Springs National Recreation Area on the east side of the Organ Mtns in Doña Ana County. I took US Hwy 62/180 to Carlsbad, picked up US. Hwy 285 north to Artesia, then west on US. 82 through Cloudcroft & Alamagordo to the signed turn-off for Aguirre Springs. The access road was gated near its terminus, and I parked in the dark waiting for dawn. With daylight, I drove to a high spot in the road, climbed atop my car & scoped the area for deciduous riparian habitat likely to hold goldfinches in numbers. Finding none, I determined to scout the Rio Grande in southern New Mexico for suitable habitat. I drove from Las Cruces to Socorro, taking several side roads as well, but using US. Highway 85 most of the time. On the west side of Las Cruces, and area known as the "old refuge" was touted as a riparian bird heaven, but almost all of the large cottonwoods are dead, long dead. The tamarisk had no goldfinches when I visited. By far the best goldfinch habitat was at Percha Dam State Park in Sierra Co., near Arrey.

Tucker J.

Journal

Gila River 4 miles downstream of Highway 180 Bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation 4350 ft.

August 5-7 Despite a very decent riparian woodland of cottonwood, willow, and tamarisk, I detected no goldfinches there (I did find a striped whipsnake there). After an hour or so racing around the park and along the river south of the park fence, I continued north to Socorro. North of Percha Dam State Park, riparian habitat is scarce and poor. Really, the Rio Grande in this part of the state is little more than a big, unadorned ditch. From Socorro, I returned south to spend the night at Elephant Butte State Park.

On the morning of August 4 I drove to Silver City, New Mexico via New Mexico State Highway 90 and U.S. Highway 180. I arrived at 10:30. Since it was raining, and rain was expected all day, I checked into a motel. I needed to shop to restock supplies of food, ice, drink; to shower in a bed way; & to catch up on my notes. I wanted also to watch the Giants & Reds baseball game later on ESPN.

August 5

I left Silver City at 07:00 and continued W. on U.S. Hwy 180. On arrival at the Gila River, I took Bill Evans Lake Rd downstream along the river. The road becomes Forest Road 809. This I took to a potential study area just into Gila National Forest. At 07:40, I ran into a group of bird watchers who said they had seen Lesser Goldfinch - one! As I was talking to them, I heard several.

I then drove to Cliff, New Mexico to the headquarters of the Pacific Western Land Co., on whose property I worked 2 years ago. A sign on the office said "closed today for funeral services." So I returned to the Gila National Forest site. When I returned at 10:15, the skies were already heavily overcast, so I quickly pitched my tents and transferred the working materials into one and my sleeping gear into the other. At

Texas, July 1991

Journal

Gila River 4 miles downstream of U.S. Highway 180 Bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

August 5-7 (con't) 12:40 there began a 2 hour break in the weather, during which I scouted for possible net sites. I had no opportunity to net birds today.

Weather August 5 was overcast all day, with rain beginning at 11:00, accompanied by lightning, thunder and gusty winds. Between 12:40 and 14:45, rain held off while gusty winds continued to blow. A moderate rain began at 14:45 and this became a downpour at 16:10. Lightning struck very close three times. Excepting one 15 minute and two 10 minute breaks, it rained heavily until at least 20:50. Temp. 65-85°F.

The river level at dawn August 6 was up six inches from yesterday and down a few inches from its high in the night. From a thin chocolate soup yesterday the river about 120' wide here was opaque, rich chocolate today. The fence boundary to the national forest was partially lost in the high water. I set up mist nets at three promising sites near camp, but caught nothing ~~x~~ one blue grosbeak and one cardinal (ouch!) until a late afternoon flurry of activity coincident with a storm's threatening. Between 17:30 and 19:30 I caught 8 Lesser Goldfinches and nothing else.

The habitat at this location is a discontinuous gallery forest of big Fremont cottonwoods (30-50' tall, 3-5' dbh), with some small cottonwoods in places. There were some big sycamores, too, but no small ones were seen. Large willows grew in a pocket at one place, forming a thicket with Arizona walnuts and a single oak tree. There were several small willow trees widely distributed. Mesquite was a lesser component of the woodland at the margins of the floodplain. The gallery forest was far more continuous on the opposite bank of the river. The earth was covered with a variety of grasses and forbs, and in low areas and by the river, with jetsam. Bare earth shows sparingly, under shading

TROCHET, JA.
1991

Journal

Gila River 4 miles downstream of U.S. Highway 180 Bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

August 5-7 (cont) trees and on casual roads. Forbs include pink bee flower, 2 yellow composites, Helianthus, phlox, cocklebur, wild squash, mint & evening primrose. The slopes above the floodplain were of a moderately open woodland of pinyon, juniper and 3 species of oak, admixed with some cliffrose, walking stick cholla, some cat-claw acacia, and lots of grasses & forbs. Pinyon grew in pure stands on N. facing slopes. I camped under 2 very large cottonwoods which provided continuous shade from 11:15 to sunset.

The weather August 6 dawned clear, w/ a bit of fog in the river valley and 2-3 clouds to NE over the Mogollon Mesaif. When the fog burned off, the air felt much less humid than yesterday. Cloud cover built back in around 14:45, but storms did not threaten closely until around 17:30. At 19:30, gusty winds, lightning close by, and a few large drops of rain ended my day afield. Winds abated at 20:45, and the rain that threatened never really materialized. Temperature range 55°F to 85°F.

On August 7, I opened my nets by 05:50. There was a side road near camp leading away from the floodplain; this I briefly explored from 07:30 to 08:30. I worked my nets until noon, when I had 5 more goldfinches. Counting the birds obtained in 1989 on Pacific Western Land Co. property, this completed a sample of twenty goldfinches.

The weather today, August 7 was clear at dawn, with a few clouds to the NE and E. There was a light downstream breeze. Temperature was about 55°F. By 10:30 there were thunderclouds all around. Wind became steady 5-10 mph out of SW after 12:00, with persistent mostly cloudy conditions. It rained for about 5 minutes at 12:20, but

TRACHET, J.A.
1991

Journal

Gila River, 4 miles downstream of U.S. Highway 180 Bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft

August 5-7 (con't) despite continued threats, it rained at no other time. Maximum temperature was about 80°F.

I broke camp and left the area at 16:00, with lightning flashing and thunder clapping nearly simultaneously, gusty winds blowing, and still no rain.

Species list for the area (SR = side road walked Aug. 7)

Amphibians: Rana catesbeiana

reptiles: tree lizard
large fence lizard type
Greater earless lizard
lesser earless lizard

birds: Great Blue Heron
Green-backed Heron
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
Sharp-tailed Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
American Kestrel
Wild Turkey - track
Gambel's Quail
Killdeer
Spotted Sandpiper
Rock Dove
Mourning Dove
White-winged Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Desert Grassland Whiptail
Chihuahuan Spotted Whiptail

Common Nighthawk
Broad-tailed Hummingbird - ♂ Aug 6
Rufous Hummingbird - netted ♀♀ Aug 7
Belted Kingfisher
Acorn Woodpecker (SR)
Gila Woodpecker
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker
N. Wood-Pewee
Gray Flycatcher (SR)
Empidonax sp
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher (SR)

Tercaux, John
1991

Journal

Gila River, 4 miles downstream from U.S. Highway 180 Bridge, Gila National Forest, Grant Co., New Mexico. Elevation ft.

August 5-7 (cont)

Cassin's Kingbird	Yellow Warbler
W. Kingbird	American Redstart – ad ♂
Tree Swallow	Yellow-breasted Chat
Violet-green Swallow	Hepatic Tanager (SR)
Cliff Swallow	Summer Tanager
Scrub Jay (SR)	N. Cardinal
Gray-breasted Jay	Black-headed Grosbeak
American Crow	Blue Grosbeak
Common Raven	Lazuli Bunting
Bridled Titmouse	Rufous-sided Towhee
Plain Titmouse (SR)	Canyon Towhee (SR)
Verdin	Abert's Towhee
Bushtit	Cassin's Sparrow (SR)
White-breasted Nuthatch	Rufous-crowned Sparrow (SR)
Rock Wren (SR)	Lark Sparrow
Canyon Wren (SR)	Black-throated Sparrow
Bewick's Wren	Great-tailed Grackle
N. Mockingbird	Hooded Oriole
[Phainopepla] reported by birders from local bird club Aug 5	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Plumbeous Vireo	House Finch
Lucy's Warbler	Lesser Goldfinch
mammals: Mustela frenata	rock squirrel
skunk-track	Lepus californicus
domestic cat-track	Odocoileus hemionus-track
Coyote – H.O.	Bird
mouse sp. – track	

J. A. Trochet
1991-1992

Journal
1992

Calif: Shasta Co.
Calif: San Bernadino, Los Angeles Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa Co.
Texas: Hidalgo, Cameron, Kenedy, Travis,
Kinney, Jeff Davis, Presidio Cos.
Arizona: Maricopa Co.
New Mexico: Hidalgo Co.
Texas: Presidio, Jeff Davis, Randall,
Armstrong Cos.
Calif: San Bernadino, Shasta Cos.
New Mexico: Hidalgo, Eddy, Socorro Cos.
Oregon: Harney Co.
Nevada: Elko Co.
Arizona: Navajo Co.

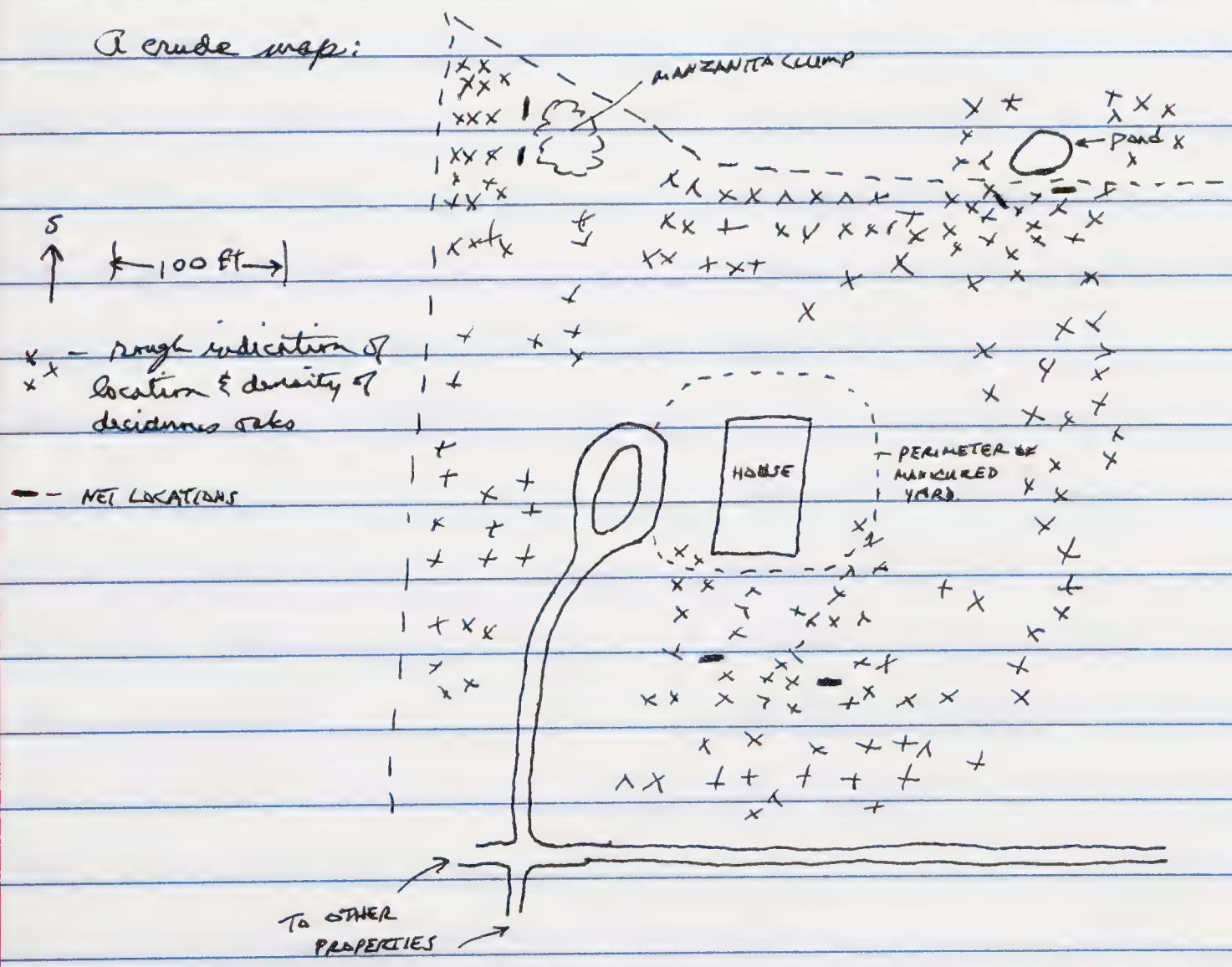
Susan J.
1992

Journal

22491 Willow Drive Palo Cedro Shasta Co., California. Elevation 500 feet.

March 25 Bob and Kathy Hansen Kinsley consented to my netting birds on their suburban property in southern Shasta Co., in an area of oak woodland and occasional ponds. In this hilly area, the large house dominates the hilltop, and the slopes and low spots have deciduous oaks 20-35' tall, 8-18" dbh, trees spaced 5-20' apart. There are scattered manzanitas which also grow in one substantial clump in the yard. There is dense green grass/forb cover of the soil. Down slope from the back of the house, just beyond the property fence line, is a 50'x70' pond c. an 8' high brush pile in the middle of it. The oaks have mostly budded out and some flowers are also visible. There was a live creek about 300 yds SE of the property.

A crude map:



I set up my nets at 06:50, setting out my finder birds before them in the usual fashion. There were lots of lesser goldfinches about lots of singing & chasing, some birds seemingly already in pairs. My netting success was steady throughout the day.

Lovett, John
1992

Journal

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta Co., California. Elevation 500 ft.

March 25 (cont'd) Weather: Today was clear & pleasant. Temperatures ranged from about 45°F to 75°; too dew in the grass persisting to 09:00. Winds were light & variable until about 13:30, when they became consistently W. breezes. Clouds were seen only at great distance to the N & E.

Species list:

Amphibians: Hyla regilla

Reptiles: Sceloporus occidentalis

birds: Great Blue Heron - 2
Canada Goose - 2 (H.O.)
Mallard - 4
Turkey Vulture - 1
Red-shouldered Hawk - 2
Common Peafowl - H.O.
Mourning Dove - 5
Anna's Hummingbird - 5
Belted Kingfisher - 2 (H.O.)
Acorn Woodpecker - 12
Nuttall's Woodpecker - 1
Red-shafted Flicker - 4
Tree Swallow - 30
Scrub Jay - 1
American Crow - 10
Plain Titmouse - 12
White-breasted Nuthatch - 8 (mostly H.O.)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet - 4
W. Bluebird - 10
American Robin - 2
European Starling - 25
Audubon's Warbler - 4
Fox Sparrow - 4
White-crowned Sparrow - 16
Brewer's Blackbird - 65
House Finch - 35
Lesser Goldfinch - 30
American Goldfinch - 2 (H.O.)
House Sparrow - 2

mammals: Thomomys - diggings

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2500 feet.

April 7. On the recommendation of Jim deLaurier, biology professor at Chaffey

TRACHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2850 feet.

April 7 (cont) College, and who accompanied me into the canyon today, I visited Day Canyon with the idea of collecting lesser goldfinches on the southernmost portion of San Bernardino National Forest. Jim has keys to the two locked gates, put up by the local municipal water cooperative, for which Day Canyon Creek is an important resource. Nonetheless, there is abundant evidence that the lower canyon and its bajada get lots of foot & bicycle traffic. The road toward the canyon crosses the Cucamonga Fault, whose upthrust has created a number of fans, one of which is still intact below Day Canyon (most apparently were intensively farmed until their peat soils dried and blew away). The bajada and the lower mountain slopes show evidence of an extensive fire, this in 1889, according to Jim. The bajada & lower slopes and ridges were once chamise chaparral. That on the bajada has been almost entirely replaced by sage, both black sage & white sage. The road winds up toward the canyon mouth passing an exotic pine planting on one hill, and on another hill closer to the canyon mouth, a planting of Eucalyptus. Below and to the west of the eucalyptus the hill has been gouged into a flood control conformation. From this same spot, the mouth of Day Canyon is visible about ½ mile to the north. The canyon is narrow, confined by tall, steep slopes and dominated in this view by the snow-clad summit of Cucamonga Peak (8856'). The area immediately below Day Canyon, perhaps also because of flood control work, is mostly an unvegetated boulder field. But Day Canyon itself is well vegetated. The dominant tree in the canyon bottom is alder; a few old ones cored by Jim are 80 years old, but most large trees are 50-55 years old. These trees form a continuous, closed-canopy

TRACHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2800 feet

April 7 (cont'd) gallery forest with trees 20-30 feet tall, 8-16" dbh, and fully leafed out. Mostly excluded from the immediate margins of the creek were other tree species of the canyon bottom: Quercus chrysolepis & Calif. Bay; shrubs included manzanita & mountain mahogany on the lower canyon slopes. Remarkable was one very large (30-35' tall, 35-40" dbh) maple on a sun-exposed rocky bench about 30 yards downstream of the nearest riparian woodland. Evidently the gallery forest once extended downstream a greater distance than now. This giant maple is sickly and will not likely survive many more years. There are a scattered few maples as understory trees (saplings mostly) in the riparian corridor upstream. The alder forest extends about 1/4 mile, then continues as a bordering strip adjacent to the creek for 3/8 mile of otherwise boulder flats to a narrow spot in the canyon, where the riparian woodland once again broadens. The breadth of the canyon is 50-150 yards. Canyon slopes are approx 60°. These slopes once had spotty coverage with conifers. The pines have almost all been fire-killed, but the firs seem to have survived much better. Once above the narrows, the trail becomes very difficult to follow, impossible if one desires to stay out of the 10-15' wide creek. Canyon orientation is mostly NW draining to SE. Nearest signed road is Etiwanda Avenue, which one follows north to get to the gravel roads leading to the canyon (Etiwanda intersects all major E-W roads in the area, including Interstate 10). In the absence of keys to the gates, it's a 1 1/2 mile uphill walk to the canyon. This is really a splendid place but for one serious debit: the smog here is pretty wicked. The air toward the populated areas below is decidedly grown.

Lucas, J.A.
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2800 feet.

April 7 (cont) Excepting the smog, the weather was clear today with mild W. breezes. Temperatures 65–70°F. Time of visit 10:30 to 13:00.

Species list:

Amphibians – none. We spent a bit of time looking for *Batrachoseps* sp. in the fen and along the creek, but to no success.

Reptiles: *Sceloporus* sp.
(striped) snake sp.

Birds: Red-tailed Hawk – 1 ad.
California Quail – 2, others H.O.
Band-tailed Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Black-chinned Hummer
Anna's Hummingbird
Costa's Hummingbird
Pacific Slope Flycatcher
Violet-Green Swallow
Steller's Jay
Plain Titmouse
Bushtit
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
American Robin
Wrentit
California Thrasher
Cassin's Vireo
Hutton's Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Audubon's Warbler
Rufous-sided Towhee
California Towhee
Black-chinned Sparrow
Song Sparrow
N. (Bullock's) Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch

Mammal: dog-track
mule deer-track

Jocum, J.G.
1992

Journal

Every Canyon & Cobal Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, Los Angeles Co., California. Elevations: Every Canyon 2500 ft. Cobal Canyon 1800 ft.

April 7 After I returned Jim deLaurier to his office at Chaffey College, I drove at his suggestion to Every Canyon, off Mt. Baldy Road 1/2 mile N. of San Antonio Dam on San Antonio Creek, just inside Los Angeles County's eastern border. This is a pretty, oak dominated canyon (Q. chrysolepis mostly) with toyon shrub understory and a small flow in the creek. The canyon drains ESE to San Antonio Creek. I visited only briefly (14:00 to 14:45), walking smartly up canyon to gauge goldfinch population size. They did not appear to be numerous. I then drove (again at Jim's suggestion) to Pomona College to meet someone who might steer me to a good field site. He was not available, but Rachel Levin, a new biology faculty person there, suggested Cobal Canyon, due N. of Campus at the end of Mills Avenue. Cobal Canyon drains SE, with little flow in the creek. Cobal Canyon vegetation was again dominated by oaks and toyon, but the plants seemed much smaller than individuals in Every Canyon. In spots along the creek there were a few willows and a few alders. Adenostoma chaparral covered the lower & medium elevation slopes, which were much more visible here than at Every C. There were pockets of eucalypts at the low ξ, visible at a distance high in the canyon. I visited Cobal Canyon from 16:45 to 19:00 (sunset). Goldfinches were numerous at Cobal Canyon.

Weather this afternoon was clear, with a fine 5-10 mph W. wind. Temperature about 70°F, down slightly at sunset.

Species list: (C.C. - Cobal Canyon; E.C. Every Canyon)

Herps: none

Birds: Turkey Vulture - 1 CC
California Quail - H.O. CC, EC
Red-tailed Hawk - 2 ad. CC
Greater Yellowlegs - 1 F.O. CC

Texas, fall 1992

Journal

Eaton and Cobble Canyons, San Gabriel Mountains, Los Angeles Co., California

Elevations: Eaton Canyon 2500 feet; Cobble Canyon 1800 feet

April 7 (cont'd)

Band-tailed Pigeon	Hermit Thrush - singing ♂ CC
Mourning Dove	American Robin
Great Horned Owl	Wrentit
White-throated Swift - H.O. CC	California Thrasher
Anna's Hummingbird	Hutton's Vireo
Acorn Woodpecker	Orange-crowned Warbler
Nuttall's Woodpecker	Audubon's Warbler
Pacific Slope Flycatcher	Black-Headed Grosbeak
Scrub Jay	Rufous-sided Towhee
Plain Titmouse	California Towhee
Bushtit	Song Sparrow
Bewick's Wren	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
House Wren	Lesser Goldfinch
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	

Salt River southwest of Phoenix, Maricopa Co., Arizona

April 8 I drove last night from Pomona, California to Goodyear, Arizona, a west-side suburb of Phoenix, via Interstate 10. I slept for a few hours on the frontage road adjacent to the freeway, awaiting first light to complete my drive to the Salt River on Phoenix's southwest side. Dr. Amadeo Rea of the San Diego Natural History Museum had suggested this as a possible place to collect goldfinches. The river between 91st Avenue and 115th Avenue, opposite the Gila Indian Reservation on the south bank, has developed a substantial riparian woodland in the last 10-15 years, kept going in dry times by effluent from the Phoenix sewage treatment plant at 91st Avenue. I made calls at

Journal

Tucson, Ariz
1992

Salt River southwest of Phoenix, Maricopa Co., Arizona

April 8 (cont) 99th and 115th Avenues on the N. bank of the Salt. The channel was flooded. The bridge to the reservation at 115th Ave. was under water! The gallery woodland appeared potentially satisfactory for goldfinches. There was a pretty even mix of Fremont cottonwoods and salt cedars (Tamarix). The cottonwoods were 12-25 feet tall, approx 4-10" dbh; the salt cedars were 10-20 feet tall. Any understory was underwater, as the river was confined by gravelly-boulder levees devoid of plant life. The adjacent fields were devoted to agricultural crops, & a few left fallow & grown to mixed brush & grass, the latter mostly dry. I saw few birds, and no goldfinches. Only the ad. White-Tailed Kite at 115th Ave. was notable. I hope to check this place again at a time of lower water. I visited from 06:15 - 10:00. I spent the remainder of the day in Phoenix area bookstores before returning to California in the evening via Interstate 10.

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2800 ft.

April 9 I arrived here from Phoenix via Interstate 10, turning N. at Etiwanda Avenue exit and following this road to its end at an E-W oriented gravel road. Thus I followed W. for about a mile, then turned N. on another gravel road (none of the gravel roads are signed). This road is gated, and finding the gate in the dark reassured me that I was indeed where I intended to be. Again I slept in my car a few hours until it was light enough to hike into the canyon w/ a flashlight. I visited Day Canyon from 06:30 to 11:30, after which I visited my in-laws briefly in Duarte, then returned home to Sacramento. See April 7 account for habitat description.

Lucas, John
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2800 ft.

April 9 (cont) Weather April 9 was beautiful. Skies were cloudless, c̄ a faint fog early in the morning, burning off by 08:00, perhaps coincident with development of light W. breezes. Temperatures 50°–70°F.

Species list:

Amphibians: Hyla regilla

Reptiles: Sceloporus occidentalis

Birds: Turkey Vulture - 3
Red-Tailed Hawk - 1 pair
California Quail
Mountain Quail
Band-tailed Pigeon
Mourning Dove
Poorwill
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Anna's Hummingbird
Costa's Hummingbird
Downy Woodpecker
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker
Pacific Slope Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Violet-green Swallow
Steller's Jay
Scrub Jay
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Ceanothus (tigris)
Bewick's Wren
House Wren
Western Bluebird
American Robin
Wrentit
California Thrasher
Cassin's Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Orange-crowned Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Black-throated Gray Warbler
Audubon's Warbler
Myrtle Warbler
Townsend's Warbler
Black-headed Grosbeak
Rufous-sided Towhee
Black-chinned Sparrow
White-crowned Sparrow
Brown-headed Cowbird
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch

Lucas, John
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California. Elevation 2800 ft.

April 9 (con't) mammals: Spermophilus beecheyi Odocoileus hemionus
Lyemilagus sp.

April 23 I left Sacramento just before 06:00 on my way to Texas for field work & to attend a wedding in Houston early next month, but with to plan to visit Day Canyon en route. I arrived at Day Canyon via California Hwy 99 to I-5, to I-210, to I-10, exit at Haven Avenue to return a Batrachoseps major alcoholic specimen to Jim des Fauriers, then took Highland Avenue east, turned N. on Etiwanda and followed the unsigned gravel road to the locked gate about 1½ miles from the canyon. Habitat as described April 7. I visited the area from 13:30 to 17:30. Three goldfinches were seen again today.

Weather April 23 was very fine. Temperatures 70-75°, 5-10 mph W. Wind, no clouds, light smog.

Species list:

Amphibians: none

Reptiles: Sceloporus - many Phrynosoma sp - 1
Cnemidophorus - several Masticophis lateralis - 1

Birds: Turkey Vulture W. Wood Pewee
Red-tailed Hawk Pacific Slope Flycatcher
California Quail Black-throated Flycatcher
Mountain Quail W. Kingbird
Band-tailed Pigeon Violet-green Swallow
Mourning Dove Steller's Jay
Red-shafted Flicker Scrub Jay
Anna's Hummingbird Plain Titmouse

TRACHET, J.
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, near Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Co., California Elevation 2800 feet.

April 23 (con't)

Bushtit	Audubon's Warbler
Rock Wren	Black-headed Grosbeak
Canyon Wren	Lazuli Bunting
Bewick's Wren	Rufous-sided Towhee
House Wren	Chipping Sparrow
Blue-Gray Gnatcatcher	Black-chinned Sparrow
W. Bluebird	Lark Sparrow
American Robin	Sage Sparrow
Wrentit	Song Sparrow
Walking Vireo	White-crowned Sparrow
Orange-crowned Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Yellow Warbler	House Finch
	Lesser Goldfinch

Travel Day

April 24 After leaving Day Canyon I returned to Interstate 10 and proceeded E. through Arizona, New Mexico and into Texas until I broke down in Fort Stockton at 21:30. I was unable to find the fuel filter I needed at that hour, so I spent the night in a motel. The shower felt great!

April 25 I bought the fuel filter from an auto parts store at 08:30 and was up and running well by 08:50. From Fort Stockton I took U.S. Hwy 285 to Sanderson (where a collared peccary ran across the road in front of me), where I turned E on U.S. Hwy 90 to Del Rio, where I picked up U.S. Hwy 277. I traveled this highway through Eagle Pass to ~~Carrizo~~ Carrizo Springs, where I took U.S. Hwy 83. Then I turned E. on Texas State Hwy 44 to Alice, Texas, ~~then~~ turning S. on US 281. I turned E. to Kingsville on Texas Hwy 141. My contacts for S. Texas

Journal

Tucker, Ga
1992

Travel Day

April 25 (cont) live in and around Kingsville. I phoned Mr. Paul Palmer. His wife answered, saying he was out of town. I called Mr. Tobin Armstrong. He was hosting a family reunion and wouldn't be available until Monday, 4/27. Likewise, Dr. O'Neil was also out of town until Monday. Daylight was waning. I resolved to go down to the Rio Grande Valley to do some bird watching. I camped at Bentsen Rio Grande Valley State Park. While setting up my tent in the dark I heard pauraque and E. screech-owl, and I saw a racoon. I finally got to bed just before midnight.

Lower Rio Grande Valley, Hidalgo & Cameron Counties, Texas

April 26 I woke up later than I hoped (I was tireder than I wanted to believe) and after a quick breakfast at Bentsen State Park, I drove the short distance down river to my first stop, Anzalduas County Park, Hidalgo Co. This park borders the river and has picnic grounds and brushy areas. Adjacent to it is a decent example of S. Texas riparian "brush", a really dense growth of low trees & shrubs, most armed c̄ thorns, prickles, or something pointed & annoying. This is posted against trespassing, but I visited by entry through an unposted part of the fence. I visited Anzalduas County Park from 08:15 to 13:45. I then made the drive to National Audubon Society's Sabal Palm Sanctuary at Southmost, SE of Brownsville, in Cameron County. This parcel protects the larger of the two remaining tracts of native Sabal Palm, which here is the dominant tree in the riparian thornscrub. While here I noted a few lesser goldfinches. I spoke with Rose Farmer, manager of the sanctuary. She informed me that they nested last year, with a nest found near headquarters on June 28, 1991. They appeared in fair numbers when

TRAUET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Lower Rio Grande Valley, Hidalgo & Cameron Counties, Texas

April 26 a nearby field was grown to millet, she told me. Among naturalists,
(Cont) Sabal Palm Sanctuary is probably better known to herpetologists and lepidopterists for species whose U.S. distribution is almost coincident with sanctuary boundaries. I visited the sanctuary from 15:15 to 17:30. I then sped to Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, Cameron Co., but when I arrived (18:30) the tour road gates were already locked. I spent the remaining hour of daylight walking the trails through mesquite & grassland near the headquarters. I camped at a particularly noisy county park just north of the refuge.

Weather today was clear, humid and pleasantly warm, with E. breezes after 12:30. Temperature ranged from 68–85°F.

Species list (ACP = Anzalduas County Park; SPS Sabal Palm Sanctuary; NWR = Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge);
N.B.: where taxon seen multiple places, sequence of numbers is given respectively to sequence of site

Herps: Rana sp. ACP

Rana catesbeiana – 1, SPS

Gambusia sp – many SPS; 1 NWR

Birds: cormorant sp – 1 NWR

Great Blue Heron – 1 NWR

Great Egret – SPS, NWR

Snowy Egret – NWR

Tricolored Heron NWR

Cattle Egret – SPS, NWR

Green-backed Heron – SPS

Black-crowned Night Heron NWR

Black-bellied Whistling Duck – ACP, SPS

Turkey Vulture – ACP

? Hook-billed Kite – 1, ACP

Black-shouldered Kite – ACP

Cooper's Hawk ACP

Harris' Hawk ACP

Gray Hawk ACP

Swainson's Hawk – SPS, NWR

Plain Chachalaca – ACP, SPS

N. Bobwhite – ACP

Solitary Sandpiper – 2, SPS

Laughing Gull – ACP, SPS, NWR

Caspian Tern – NWR

small-med Sterna sp. – 1 NWR

Rock Dove – many Harlingen

Lockes, J. A.
1992

Journal

Lower Rio Grande Valley, Hidalgo & Cameron Counties, Texas

April 26 (Crit)

White-winged Dove - ACP, SPS, NWR
Mourning Dove - ACP, SPS, NWR
Common Ground Dove - ACP, NWR
White-tipped Dove - ACP, SPS, NWR
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - NWR
Greater Roadrunner - NWR
Eastern Screech-Owl ACP
Mottled Owl - 1, ACP (S.A.)
Common Nighthawk - NWR
Pauraque - ACP, NWR
Buff-bellied Hummingbird SPS
Ruby-throated Hummingbird - 2♂, NWR
Golden-fronted Woodpecker - all three
Olive-sided Flycatcher - 1, NWR
E. Wood-Pewee - 2, SPS
Acadian Flycatcher SPS
Least Flycatcher SPS
E. Phoebe - NWR
Brown-crested Flycatcher - ACP
Ash-throated Flycatcher - ACP, SPS, NWR
Great Kiskadee - ACP, SPS
Couch's Kingbird - ACP, SPS, NWR
E. Kingbird - NWR
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher - NWR
Swallow sp. - 1, ACP
Green Jay - ACP, SPS, NWR
Black-crested Titmouse - ACP, SPS

Cactus Wren - ACP
Carolina Wren - ACP, SPS
House Wren - ACP
Veery - NWR
Swainson's Thrush - SPS, NWR
Gray Catbird - SPS, NWR
N. Mockingbird - ACP, SPS, NWR
Long-billed Thrasher - all 3:
Curve-billed Thrasher - NWR
Cedar Waxwing - 80, ACP
Loggerhead Shrike - 1, NWR
White-eyed Vireo - ACP, SPS
Yellow-throated Vireo - SPS
Warbling Vireo - SPS, NWR
Philadelphia Vireo - SPS
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Orange-crowned Warbler
Nashville Warbler
N. Parula
Yellow Warbler
Chestnut-sided Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
[Black-throated Green - seen at SPS by 3rd party]
Blackburnian Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Cerulean Warbler

Journal

Lower Rio Grande Valley, Hidalgo & Cameron Cos., Texas

April 26 (Exit)

Black-and-white Warbler
Ovenbird
N. Waterthrush
Louisiana Waterthrush
Common Yellowthroat
[Hooded Warbler – reported at SPS by 3rd party]
Canada Warbler
Summer Tanager – 1♂, SPS
N. Cardinal
Painted Bunting

Olive Sparrow
Lark Sparrow – 3, NWR
Red-winged Blackbird – 4 F.O. NWR
E. Meadowlark SPS, NWR
Great-tailed Grackle – all 3:
Bronzed Cowbird – all 3:
Hooded Oriole – SPS
Altamira Oriole – 1, ACP
N. (Baltimore) Oriole – 1, NWR
Lesser Goldfinch – 10, SPS
House Sparrow – 8, NWR

mammals: Didelphis – track NWR
Procyon – track ACP, NWR
Canis sp – track all three
Felis – fresh, fairly large tracks at a den adjacent to ACP. Tracks 1 5/8" x 1 3/8"
Sylvilagus sp – ACP, SPS, NWR: 2-1-4

Mexican ground squirrel – 1 ACP
Spotted ground squirrel – 1 NWR
fox squirrel – 10, ACP.

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elev. 20 feet.

April 27 – May 2

I called Mr. Armstrong at 08:30 and he invited me to his ranch which I reached by driving north from Raymondville on U.S. 77, through Norias to Armstrong (which is little more than a sign on the highway) where a narrow road goes east to ranch headquarters. Mr. Tobin Armstrong, owner of the ranch, interviewed me for about half an hour before consenting to my working on the property. He then said I could work "the pasture to the north" or the area W of Highway 77. My idea of a pasture did not coincide with his. The pasture he spoke of was a mix of trees and grass that was 30,000 acres in extent! The ranch

Texas, John
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E of Armstrong, Kenedy Cx, Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

April 27-
May 2
(Cont)

itself is said to be 480,000 acres in extent. Mr. Armstrong then took me to a nearby oak motte to see if this habitat was what I was looking for. I didn't know where precisely to expect to find goldfinches but what information I had suggested that oak mottes were where to look. He left shortly thereafter to attend to ranching duties elsewhere on his property but giving me permission to explore, to see if goldfinches were sufficiently numerous for my needs, and to meet him at 20:00 to discuss my plans.

I explored the area W. of Highway 77 first. The area is a gently undulating country of sandy soils, with low hills and ridges bordering broad basins. Many of the basins had shallow pools (according to Mr. Armstrong, it rained 1¼" 4/25), some as large as 500 x 750 feet, these with little emergent vegetation. There were also scattered, dug-out ponds for watering cattle, these invariably near mesquite bosques. The soils are buried over with a 2-3 foot tall herbaceous growth, mostly grasses, but lots of green wildflowers, too. There is almost no naked soil, except at ground squirrel burrow concentrations. Mesquite and huisache bosques were scattered on these grassy plains, usually in or near the bottoms of the broad basins. I saw no live oaks W. of Highway 77.

East of Hwy 77, the terrain, while still pretty flat, was slightly more undulating. There were numerous live oak mottes (woodlands) which occupied higher ground. These were usually seemingly even-aged stands of trees, varying in size from about 1500 square feet to about a hectare. Most mottes were composed of medium size Virginia live oaks 10-16" dbh and 25-35' tall. Less common were groves of smaller oaks 6-8" dbh 15-20' tall; least common were widely spaced very large oaks (>24" dbh) 30-45' tall, still forming a closed canopy woodland. The understory

TROCHET, J.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

April 27-May 2 (cont) is dominated by Rabbs, about evenly slip between broad-leaved and grasses. There is some prickly pear & something akin to cane cholla, but with a more typically "barked" trunk and more gracile aspect. In the canopy, oaks with greater size, more frequently supported epiphytes, particularly Spanish moss. One of the understory plants I should have mentioned is the beautiful red-flowered Turk's cap. It is very common here. The little mesquite & huisache I saw on the W. side was in basin troughs.

There were goldfinches here, in singles and in pairs, with much singing and chasing, sex for sex, was also noted. But birds were widely spaced and so far seem partial to the oaks to the exclusion of other vegetation here. I will give collecting here a try.

While exploring during the morning of April 27 on the west side of Hwy 77, a huge swarm of bees passed over me while I was in a mesquite bosque, flying due N. I couldn't help wondering if these were more Africanized bees. Also on the W. side I saw a large, unfamiliar black and grey antelope. Mr. Armstrong informs me that I had seen a ♂ Nilgai, an antelope from SE Asia introduced by his grandfather in the 1920's. Berckbuck had also been introduced and after flourishing for a few years, seem to have died out.

I set up 2 nets in the evening of April 27 next to the only standing canal water I found, surrounded on three sides by a sparse mesquite bosque. I did not open the nets today, but they would be ready for early working in the morning. I set up my camp on the NE side of a motte of small oaks about 3/4 mile NW of the ranch headquarters, near these nets.

The weather April 27 was cloudless all day, temperatures 65-80°F. Winds been 10-20 mph out of SE from 10:30 until just to sunset.

Green, J.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co. Texas. Elevation 20 feet

April 27-May 2 (cont'd)

On April 28, I took a wide ranging walk from my camp about 3/8 mile NW of ranch headquarters. I walked west to the W., west to the E, and a bit to the N, each time swinging back around to check the nets deployed near the steadily shrinking surface water near the mesquites N. of my tent. I walked from 07:15 to 11:00. I saw &/or heard 35-40 Lesser Goldfinches. They are widely dispersed & not very approachable, not at all like the birds of cottonwood-willow riparian groves in the Southwest. At midday I set out the other 2 nets on the margins of oak mottes, but winds today made the nets too visible, though I did catch a pair of Lessers just before dusk.

Weather April 28, continuing the trend of the night before, was windy. Breezy at sunrise, the wind blew out of the S. to 07:45 5-15 mph until ~ sunset. Temperature today was 68°-85°F. There were a few scattered clouds 13:00 to 16:00.

On April 29, despite moving nets to seemingly favorable sites repeatedly through the day, I was shut out with regard to goldfinches. Even trying the "record voice, then shoot 'em" technique was unsuccessful, since, invariably, the birds just needed would take flight before I could get a shot. The finder birds have been wildly disappointing here, so far. In 2 days of field work, I have a total of 2 goldfinches. Poor!

Weather April 29 was warmer & more humid than yesterday; Temp 70-80°F. There were a few light clouds about 16:00, otherwise clear. Winds were high even before sunrise when they were S-SE 10-20 mph and continued until 12:30. Then winds became variable, commonly out of the W., 5-10 mph; by 16:30 they were intermittent NW 0-5 mph. Still periods were not prolonged.

I should add that last night, very close to the tent I heard a

TRACHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

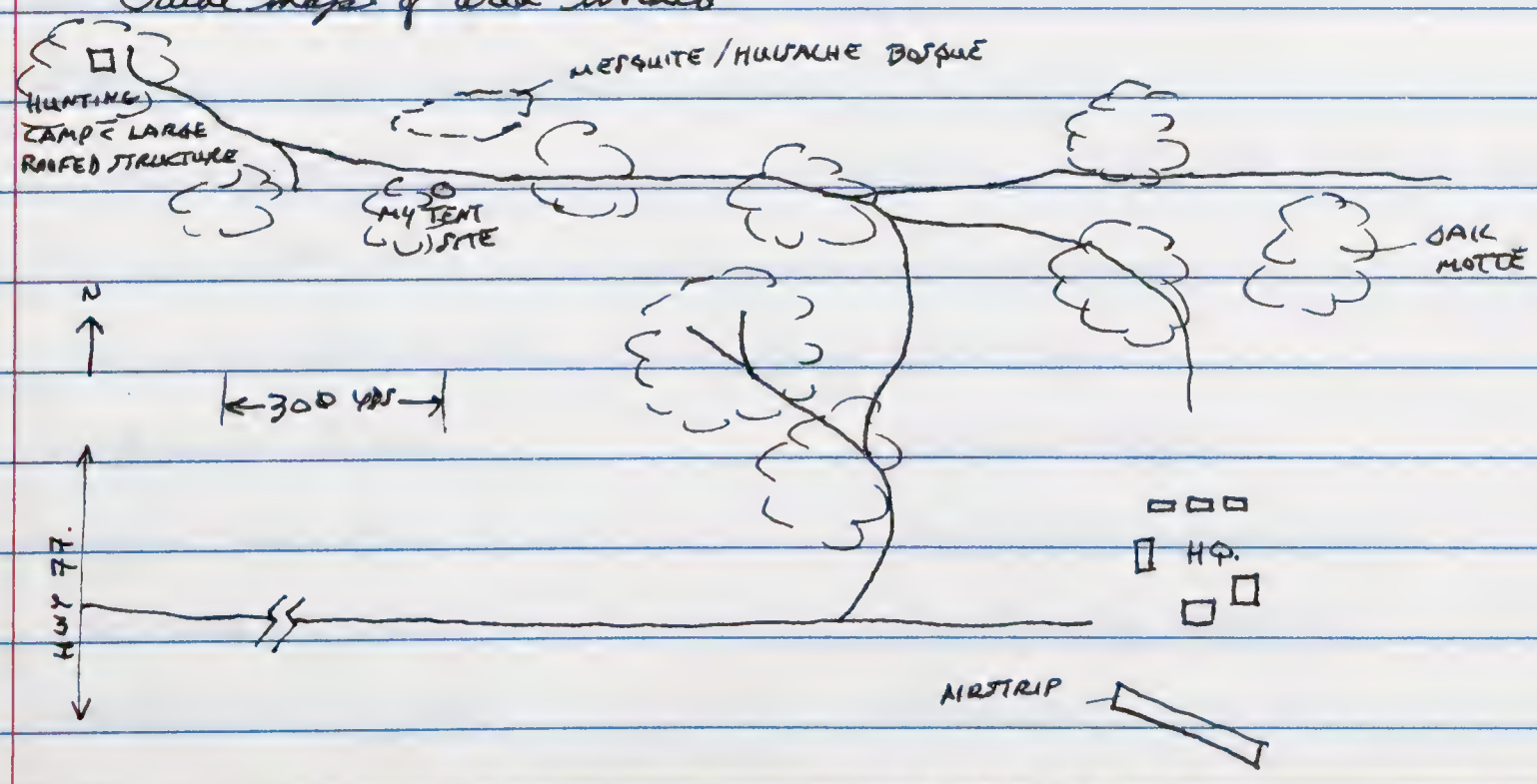
Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

April 27– the loud cry of what I thought was some species of cat. The sound
May 2 was unfamiliar, and I do have some familiarity with vocalizations of
(cont) bobcats & mountain lions. Of course, by the time I could poke my
head out the tent, there was nothing within range of my lantern beam.

On April 30, the day's successes were mostly late ones. I moved mist nets again in late morning, after having shot a pair of silent goldfinches feeding at thistles. But late afternoon was the first substantial mist net success at this field site: I caught six in the space of 90 minutes. The other excitement at a mist net today was driving away a ~~[illegible]~~ cow trying to eat my net(!), this at the casual water/spare mesquite forage site. This pond dried up completely in early afternoon.

Weather April 30 began very humid, c̄ fog at sunrise, not burning off until 08:30. High clouds ~~[illegible]~~ disappeared 09:45. No wind until 10:30, then only light & variable, NE, E, etc. NW, 0–5 mph. Clouds reappeared 14:00 from E, covering about 50% of sky, but no real portent of rain. Wind picked up about 15:45, 5–15 mph, SSE of E. Temperature range 70°–90°F.

Crude map of area worked



Trocaw, John
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

April 27 - May 2 (cont) On May 1, the day was over, as far as getting goldfinches, before the sun came up. I caught my only lesser goldfinch today at 06:45. Equally frustrating is trying to record the few birds I've taken. They do not vocalize except when overflown (rarely) by a wild bird. Then all birds briefly call excitedly, then fall silent. Getting individual recordings is then impossible. I am therefore keeping five birds alive, in hopes of recording them tomorrow.

I will work again tomorrow morning before heading to Houston to attend the wedding May 3 of a good friend from my medical days there. I expect to be back May 5.

Weather: May 1 had a temperature range of 70°–90°F. The wind, which was largely absent yesterday, returned with a vengeance. It started smartly out of the W. at 5-10 mph about 07:20, then switched around to E. at 08:00 5-20 mph, higher values in the afternoon. It was humid again in the morning, not quite as humid as yesterday. There were a few clouds at long intervals in the morning and again at dusk.

On May 2, I went out under birds at 4 note a sunrise. I caught only 2 Parus & 1 Melanerpes in three hours. High winds led me to close them up. The captive birds would not vocalize, so they remain alive & captive. To this point, I've only 11 birds, including the live five.

The weather the morning of May 2 was clear, temp 70°–80°F, E winds 5-10 mph until 10:00, when speed increased 10-20 mph.

Species list Armstrong Ranch April 27 - May 2:

Amphibians: Bullfrog

S. Leopard Frog

Reptiles: Texas Spiny Lizard

Cnemidophorus sexlineata

Low-Bellied Lizard

Cnemidophorus gularis

Keeled Earless Lizard

Coachwhip

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

April 27- Hessey Snake

May 2 (cont) Birds: Great Blue Heron

Snowy Egret

Little Blue Heron

Cattle Egret

White-faced Ibis

Roseate Spoonbill

Black-bellied Whistling-Duck

Blue-winged Teal

Black Vulture

Turkey Vulture

Black-shouldered Kite

Cooper's Hawk

Harris' Hawk

Swainson's Hawk

Red-tailed Hawk

Crested Caracara

American Kestrel

Wild Turkey

N. Bobwhite

Semipalmated Plover

Killdeer

Black-necked Stilt

Greater Yellowlegs

Willet

Wilsonbird

Laughing Gull

Texas Tortoise

Franklin's Gull

Mourning Dove

Inca Dove

Common Ground Dove

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Greater Roadrunner

Barn Owl

E. Screech-Owl

Great Horned Owl

Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl

Burrowing Owl

Lesser Nighthawk

Common Nighthawk

Pauraque

Chuck-will's-widow

Chimney Swift

Buff-bellied Hummingbird

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

Golden-fronted Woodpecker

Ladder-backed Woodpecker

E. Wood-Pewee

Contopus sp

Acadian Flycatcher

Least Flycatcher

Vermilion Flycatcher

Ash-throated Flycatcher

TROCHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch 2 miles E. of Armstrong Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet

April 27 - May 2 (cont)

Brown-crested Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee
Couch's Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Horned Lark
Barn Swallow
Green Jay
Black-crested Titmouse
Carolina Wren
Bewick's Wren
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher
Eastern Bluebird
Hermit Thrush
Catharus sp
Gray Catbird
N. Mockingbird
Long-billed Thrasher
Curve-billed Thrasher
Loggerhead Shrike
White-eyed Vireo
Warbling Vireo
Golden-winged Warbler
Tennessee Warbler
Yellow Warbler
Magnolia Warbler
Black-throated Green Warbler
Blackburnian Warbler
Bay-breasted Warbler
Black-and-White Warbler
American Redstart
N. Waterthrush
Summer Tanager
Scarlet Tanager
N. Cardinal
Pyrrhuloxia
Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Painted Bunting
Olive Sparrow
Cassin's Sparrow
Field Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Lincoln's Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
E. Meadowlark
Great-tailed Grackle
Bronzed Cowbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Hooded Oriole
Audubon's Oriole
N. (Baltimore) Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
House Sparrow

TROCHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

April 27 -	mammals: small-med bat	ground squirrel sp - burrows
May 2	raccoon - track	*Sylvilagus floridanus*
(con't)	skunk - track	*Odocoileus virginianus*
	cat-track 2"x2" in soft soil	*Bos*
	small *Canis* track	*Nilgai*
	coyote	collared peccary
	mouse sp.	*Equus*

May 6-11 I returned to Armstrong Ranch from Houston, where I saw lots of old friends, at 17:50 and set up camp under the tarpaulin-covered structure at the deer hunter camp 3/8 mile WNW of my previous campsite. This area is surrounded by large (>24" dbh) live oaks, many c̄ large old grape vines branching in their canopies. Turk's cap is especially abundant here. I reset my nets at last-used sites; 2 were opened briefly c̄ success. I shot two goldfinches late in the day, and put one of them up by flashlight. The other got stuck high in the oak it was in.

Weather late afternoon May 6 was windy, c̄ NNE winds ~10 mph, partly cloudy, less humid & about 80°F.

May 7 was another disappointing day with the mist nets. Despite ideal conditions (shaded nets, no wind, Judas birds placed mid-net height 1½ ft from net) until noon, I caught no goldfinches. Once again, I saw a goldfinch perch on a mid-level shelf string but not fall into the net. I moved nets once again at 10:00, but nothing short of acute lead toxicity has seemed effective. I shot 2 more goldfinches p̄ recording very late in the day.

At 09:20, p̄ checking empty nets, I checked an area E. of ranch headquarters where a pair of Audubon's orioles was said to be regular. I

Treat, John
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (con't) failed to find the orioles, but I caught a beautiful Texas indigo snake over six feet in length. I had read that this was a mild mannered species, so I was surprised, in addition to bleeding, when bitten by this animal.

While my nets caught no goldfinches but many migrant ~~of~~ song birds. Migrants are more numerous than anytime since the first day I was here. With such poor luck to the NW of ranch headquarters, I explored along a dirt track to the E. fence line of this pasture. It is 3.3 miles from camp. At the fence line, there is a nice mottte of large live oaks extending 0.6 miles to the north, bordering both sides of the fence. Another very nice mottte was 2.7 miles E. of camp. There are goldfinches here, too, but overdispersed & in pairs; in short, there is little reason to expect any more success here than where I have been trying my luck.

It was a good day for observing non-avian vertebrates. I already mentioned one of the snakes. I also found an unidentified hair-tail slumbering in the broadleaved understory of a mottte of small oaks near one of my nets. I couldn't tell what it was, so I approached slowly, when I got about 8' away, I could still see only about a six inch square of what turned out to be the shoulder of a collared peccary, which sprang to alert and bolted away through the brush. More interesting, if less of an adrenalin rush, was watching a bobcat stalk a deer. To my surprise, the bobcat did not make its terminal approach into the wind, and that may have been the reason for its failure (~~[illegible]~~)

Weather: May 7 was just about ideal for me. It got cold enough last night (about 55°F at dawn) that the sleeping bag felt good! There was

Tucker, Jon
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (cont'd) no stickiness in today's relative humidity. There were no winds this morning. Surface winds after 12:30 flew mostly E or NE 5 mph or so. Upper level winds flew widely scattered clouds from N → S. High temp. today was about 82.

On May 8, weather was also pleasant but not quite as nice as yesterday. It was again cool in the morning but winds came up much earlier, just after sunrise. They were light SE winds until 09:10, then increased steadily to 5-15 mph by noon and continuing through the evening hours. There were only widely scattered afternoon clouds, no threat of precipitation. With the favorable wind, I was sort of surprised to see so many passerine migrants lingering here.

This was perhaps the most frustrating day I have ever had in my pursuit of lesser goldfinches. I moved my nets to the east, to the favorable areas I found yesterday. I adjusted their placement as the sun crossed the sky, finding always sites fairly sheltered from the wind. Wild birds landed on the cages of my feder birds, but none today found my nets. I recorded six birds — none sticking around for the lead shot follow-up. I think I will have to shoot birds for which there will be no vocal record.

I found a Gray-crowned Yellowthroat (S.A.) near the eastern fence line of the north "pasture." I asked Mr. Armstrong if he would be willing to permit bird-watchers to come try to refind it. He declined to have people he didn't know in large numbers on his property, and broadcast notice of the bird's presence would surely attract many birders.

After dark, I drove S. to Raymondville to restock my ice box & block ice. I saw a DOR coral snake (20") 2 miles S. of Norias on the return drive.

TROCHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co. Texas. Elevation 20 feet

May 6-11 (cont)

About 22:00, Mr. Armstrong drove up to my camp. I walked up to his truck, he rolled down his window and announced, "I am extracting payment from you for permission to work on my ranch. Be at the house at 8:00 a.m. tomorrow." Then he drove slowly away, rolling up his window as he left!

Then there was the illegal alien. When I returned to my camp at the end of day, I found a young man sitting in my camp chair cleaning his socks. Saying he was from Guanajuato, he said he was left by his "coyote" somewhere south of here, before passing the immigration checkpoint farther north. I gave him a couple apples, a canned soda, the approximate location of the checkpoint, info. on how to identify Polaris, and good wishes that he make it to Chicago, where he said his father resides. Rationally, I really think our country needs better control of its borders. But when faced with the individual person wanting to make this nation his own, I can't help but want to help him. Parenthetically, I should say that the young man (16 years old) told me of widespread habitat loss in his native state and the increasingly unlivable conditions of cities and towns due to pollution. I think the Third World may soon be a source of a flood of ecological refugees.

At 08:00 May 9, I dutifully appeared at the door of Mr. Robin Armstrong's house. In a full length leg cast for repair of a ruptured patellar tendon, he limped into his big truck and I was informed that I would spend much of the day opening gates & shoving cattle from one fenced area to another. We were also going to stock some ponds with bass.

I have no doubt that my presence made his tasks easier, but

Tweedt, J.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet

May 6-11 (cont) I believe the real purpose was to show off his beautiful ranch. In the course of our travels, we made several stops to conduct his business, several others for me to listen for birds, and several more to observe wildlife. He regaled me with stories of his family, going back to his maternal great-grandfather's birth in Nacogdoches in 1790. I won't put it all down here, but there's enough material for a very good novel. This personal & regional history was conveyed to me, along with a lesson or ten in cattle ranching, by a personal friend (as he said) of both Lyndon Johnson and John Tower.

In our ~~trip~~ drive today we visited all the ranch south and east of the headquarters, out to the Laguna Madre. The elevation range is 0-30 feet. (There are a few higher stabilized dunes W. of Hwy 77.) The western, generally higher portion of the covered area is fairly evenly divided into live oak mottes, mesquite thickets, and short grass prairie, w/ many species of grass and forbs. Exotic trees are found at current and former residence sites on the ranch. Sabal texana is native to the Rio Grande Valley proper, but was introduced at the current Armstrong residence & at Sarita Kenedy East's Santa Rosa Ranch house (abandoned), and is spreading into native habitats therefrom. As one proceeds E. toward the Gulf of Mexico, live oak mottes become less frequent, smaller in extent and populated by smaller trees. Mesquite & huisache seem about as common as before, but the trees are more spread out & generally smaller. Near the Laguna Madre, the trees are altogether absent, yielding a prairie dominated by Spartina cord grass and dotted with scattered yuccas about 6-8' in height. There are numerous shallow basins which might have water except for seven consecutive years of drought before the last 6 months.

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co. Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (cont) The bottoms of several of these basins supported a pretty, low-growing purple plant of some sort. Also near the coast, active dunes became common, and are especially common to the north of the coastal portion of the property.

I asked Mr. Armstrong about wildlife on the ranch. He said that excepting deer & the introduced S.E. Asian antelope, the Nilgai, there is no effort made to manipulate numbers. He keeps a close eye on the range and manages cattle numbers to keep the range in good condition. And indeed it is. The cattle had no trouble satiating themselves, so that all were working their cuds by early to mid morning. Of the native birds, Mr. Armstrong was well informed regarding those species with ranges in the U.S. restricted to S. Texas. He took pleasure in telling me that his ranch had "hundreds" of "ferruginous owls," as he called them, and he recognized Kiskadees, Altamira Orioles (only 1-2 records on ranch), Audubon's Orioles (regular, uncommon), Couch's Kingbirds, Green Jays, Caracaras, and even Olive Sparrows. He did not recognize either by song (which I pointed out to him) or by picture Tropical Parula. With regard to mammals, I didn't question him in great length, but he volunteered that many native species were "common": opossums, armadillos, badgers, racoons, skunks, coyotes, gray foxes, bobcats, peccaries, cottontails & jackrabbits, plus assorted "rodents." I asked about other cats. He reported that he sees ocelots a few times each year, has seen jaguarundi twice in 40 years, and has never seen a mountain lion on the ranch, nor a jaguar.

It seemed like a good day to do something other than pursue Lesser Goldfinches. May 9 dawned solidly cloudy & windy, c̄ early winds SE, ~5 mph. These increased to 10-20 mph by mid-morning c̄ intermittent light-mod. rain

Texas, J.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (cont) Winds in the afternoon were somewhat stronger. It remained solidly cloudy until after sundown, when amazingly quickly all cloud cover vanished to produce a clear, starry sky with a near half moon. Temperatures today were 68-78°F.

After completing the tour, I opened my nets, then called my wife. I learned that my sister Teri had been killed Tuesday night in a single car MVA, despite wearing a seat belt. She leaves two kids, age 17 & 14. I closed up the empty nets and called it a day. Teri was 34. The funeral was this morning.

On May 10, I opened nets at sunrise and toted my recording equipment & shotgun from one to the next to the next to the next all morning, w/ only taking of a goldfinch. During a relative lull in the wind about noon I found in fairly rapid succession 3 goldfinches that stuck around long enough for my shotgun to come into play. And late in the day I netted a pair, for a total of five birds. I lock ~~them~~ only one for a 20-bird sample from South Texas. There was in camp, while preparing the late-caught birds by lantern light, a 36-38" coral snake about 15' from my tent. Yesterday afternoon, I had never seen a coral snake in this country. Since then I've seen one dead and, now, one alive. But I think the prettiest snake I saw today was a beautiful Schott's whipsnake, which posed for an unusually nice view before entering a shrubby margin to a scrubby growth of oaks. After finishing the last specimen prep., I drove the back roads of the N. "pasture" from 22:00 to 23:15; road heating was uneventful.

Weather May 10 was windy almost all day and cloudy all day. Upper level winds moved clouds from E → W, but surface winds were

TRICHET J.A.

1992

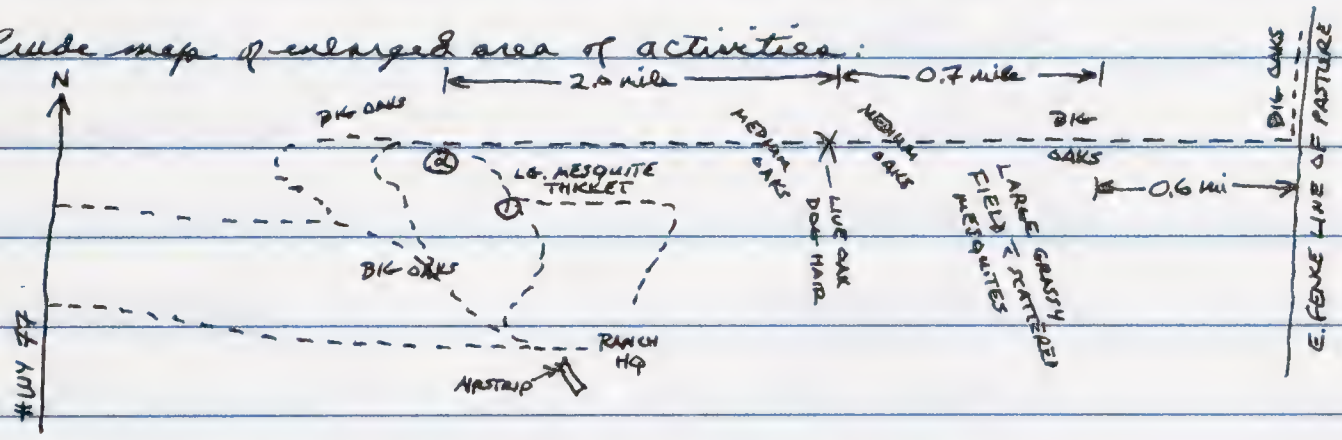
Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 ft.

May 6-11 (cont'd) more variable 3-5 mph early, usu 5-15 mph 10:30 to 14:30, then 10-25 mph until 16:45, after which they steadily abated. Temperatures today 68°-84°F

On May 11, I finally finished my work on the Armstrong Ranch. I put up the one goldfinch taken today along with four birds used as fudge birds since I netted them here April 30. Additionally, I put up a Tropical Parula I shot by mistake and a Buff-bellied Hummingbird given me by Mr. Sidin Armstrong, who found it dead on his porch.

Crude map of enlarged area of activities:



① 1st camp (à Houston) ② 2nd camp (p̄ Houston)

Weather May 11 was windy (all night and) this morning, SE 5-15 mph, and almost solidly overcast. As with the last couple days it was very humid. Temp 68°-75°F.

Species List Armstrong Ranch May 6-11:

Amphibians: S. Leopard Frog.

Reptiles: Texas Tortoise

Gulf Coast Box Turtle

Garlic

Texas Earless Lizard

Texas Fence Lizard

Texas Horned Lizard

Rose-bellied Lizard

Cnemidophorus sexlineatus

Cnemidophorus gularis

Texas Indigo Snake

Rough Green Snake

Scott's Whipsnake

Texas Rat Snake

Texas Coral Snake (S.A.)

Crockett, John
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet

May 6-11 (cont'd)

Birds: Great Blue Heron
Great Egret
Snowy Egret
Cattle Egret
Mottled Duck
Blue-winged Teal
Black Vulture
Turkey Vulture
Cooper's Hawk
Swainson's Hawk
White-tailed Hawk
Red-tailed Hawk
Crested Caracara
Wild Turkey
N. Bobwhite
Black-necked Stilt
Solitary Sandpiper
Willet
Laughing Gull
Mourning Dove
Common Ground Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Greater Roadrunner
Barn Owl
E. Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Ferruginous Pygmy-Owl
Lesser Nighthawk
Common Nighthawk
Pauraque
Chuck-will's-widow
Buff-bellied Hummingbird
Golden-fronted Woodpecker
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
E. Wood-Pewee
Contopus sp
Alder Flycatcher
Willow Flycatcher
Least Flycatcher
Gray Flycatcher
Empidonax sp.
Vermilion Flycatcher
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Brown-crested Flycatcher
Great Kiskadee
Couch's Kingbird
W. Kingbird
E. Kingbird
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Horned Lark
Barn Swallow
Green Jay
Black-crested Titmouse
Cactus Wren

Tekas, John
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (cont'd)

Carolina Wren	American Redstart
Bewick's Wren	Ovenbird
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Common Yellowthroat
E. Bluebird	Gray-crowned Yellowthroat (S.A.)
Swainson's Thrush	Wilson's Warbler
Hermit Thrush	Canada Warbler
Catharus sp.	Summer Tanager
Gray Catbird	N. Cardinal
N. Mockingbird	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Long-billed Thrasher	Blue Grosbeak
Loggerhead Shrike	Indigo Bunting
White-eyed Vireo	Painted Bunting
Bell's Vireo	Olive Sparrow
Yellow-throated Vireo	Field Sparrow
Red-eyed Vireo	Lark Sparrow
Tennessee Warbler	Lark Bunting
Orange-crowned Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
Nashville Warbler	E. Meadowlark
N. Parula	Great-tailed Grackle
Tropical Parula (S.A.)	Bronzed Cowbird
Yellow Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Hooded Oriole
Magnolia Warbler	Audubon's Oriole
Black-throated Green Warbler	N. (Baltimore) Oriole
Black-and-White Warbler	House Finch
Bay-breasted Warbler	Lesser Goldfinch
Black-and-White Warbler	

Jordan, J.A.
1992

Journal

Armstrong Ranch 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 6-11 (Cont)

Greenwalds: med. bat sp.	Didelphys (ordi by range)
raccoon	Sylvilagus
	Lepus
striped skunk	peccary
hog-nosed skunk	Sus scrofa
badger - bat look like over-fed	
coyote	White-tailed Deer
bobcat	Nilgai
Mexican ground squirrel	armadillo

Austin Travis Co, Texas

May 12-13 These were intended as travel days, but these turned into waiting days of sorts. The first was necessitated because personnel at Texas Parks & Wildlife haven't yet processed my permit request to work in state parks in West Texas and in the Texas Panhandle. I went to the Parks & Wildlife Department office and lobbied for prompt action. By the end of the day the permits were promised to be in my hands tomorrow morning. I spent the evening with Jonathan, Carol and Jordan Sessler, whom I met last year as friends of a Berkeley friend. They graciously put me up & advanced warning of my arrival.

On the morning of May 13 I picked up my permits, and headed toward Davis Mountains State Park, with permit copies for Kelly Bryan, chief park superintendent for that part of the state. On the western outskirts of Del Rio, I realized my field notebook was not on the front passenger seat. I called the Sessler's, because parks & wildlife was already closed. Fortunately, it was at the Sessler house, and Carol had put it up out of Jordan's reach. I returned to Austin and spent another, unexpected night in a city again. This night I picked up some fleas from the family cat.

Lucas, John

1992

Journal

Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet.

May 14-18 I stopped here en route to West Texas because I wanted to get a few birds to take to place I have I collected here that I put into formalin. I suspect the formalin-treated birds will not be usual for TPE. I arrived here at 18:10, having driven from Austin via Interstate 35, U.S. Hwy 90, and from Brackettville, N. on FM 674 to the N. gate, whose lock combination I still remembered. I made two brief stops en route: in Webberville, Travis Co., to see a Yellow-green Vireo in the county park there; and in Uvalde, Uvalde Co., where a Collared Plover had been reported but was no longer there. Once at Kickapoo, I set up two nets and my tent near the so-called "Lodge" in the middle of the park property. Quite a few goldfinches were present in the area, but I caught none that evening. At dusk I went briefly to Green Cave to observe the emergence of bats, almost all Tadarida. I then had a sandwich for supper and went up to visit with park superintendent Dave Stuart and his associate Oscar Carmona, the latter a talented young bird watcher formerly from Harlingen.

For a description of habitat see my notes from May, 1990.

The weather the evening of May 14 was clear, still and warm, about 80°F.

On May 15, I opened the 2 nets at sunrise and set up 2 other nets. I caught a fairly good variety & number of passerines, but no goldfinches. Owing to weather the nets were all closed 10:20 – 10:30, and remained closed for the rest of the day.

I should add some observations about the state of the landscape this year in comparison to 1990. There was much better grass cover seen today, and matta star thistle was much less evident. There is tall dry grass in many places, and green growth of shorter grass almost

Lockwood, J.A.

1992

Journal

Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet.

May 14-18 (cont'd) everywhere. Particularly prominent is flowering purple sage and a tall evening primrose. I noted also that there are excellent sets of fruit by both the juniperus and the agarita. Green cones are present on most of the piñyons, Pinus remota. The recent rains have filled all the tinajas and many tree cavities. Dave Stuart tells me that, before last week, goldfinches congregated around the water holes at the lodge & the residence, but that is no longer the case.

Weather May 15 was cloudy all day, and muggy. Low temperature was about 65°F; high 75°F. Winds were variable 0-5 mph, with stronger gusts near thunderstorms. At 18:20, light rain began to fall, and fell almost continuously for the rest of the day. The rainfall total (read the next morning) was 0.57 inches.

On May 16, I spent the day opening & closing nets due to intermittent showers. Late in the day (19:00), I moved the nets a bit to the E. of the lodge area, along the creek drainage and into an oak stand c̄ thorn scrub understory. I caught 4 goldfinches between showers.

The weather May 16 was again humid and solidly cloudy. Morning breezes were mostly SW 2-5 mph, switching to NNE 5 mph in the mid- to late afternoon. Showers fell at intervals all day, totalling 0.47". The temperatures ranged from 65°-75°F.

On May 17, I spent the day once again opening and closing nets due to intermittent showers, only today the nets were a bit more remote from base camp, so I got a bit wetter. The nets remained closed due to rain from 13:10 to 16:25, a longer continuous stretch than at any time yesterday. Again I caught four goldfinches, but all after 19:00. They would not vocalize so were kept overnight for recording & specimen prep-

TRICHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

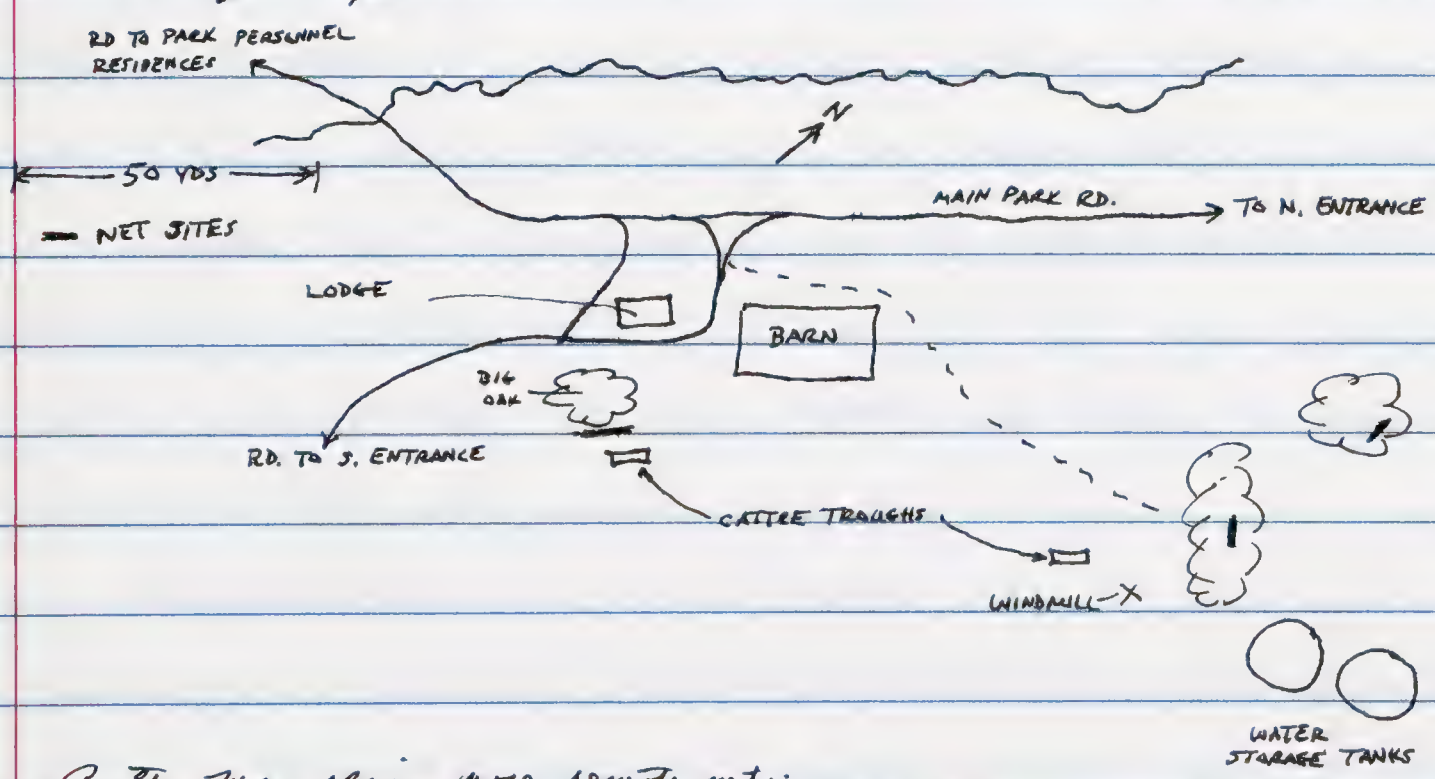
Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet

May 14-18 (cont) aration tomorrow. I think I haven't given credit to all who helped provide whereabouts of goldfinches here. In addition to Dave Stuart, Oscar Carmona and Mark Lockwood were very helpful with their counsel.

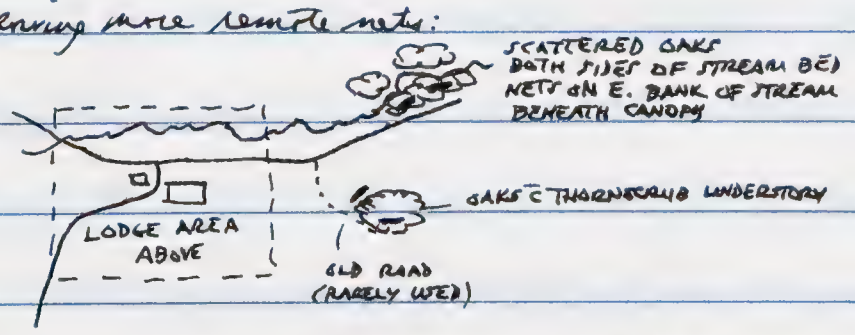
Weather May 17 was very like yesterday: overcast all day with frequent intermittent rain. Winds were variable, rarely even as high as 5 mph. Temperature 65°–75°F. Rain total today 0.87 inches.

On May 18, I opened the nets early and closed them 5 capturing goldfinches when I completed recording the goldfinches netted yesterday. I spent the rest of the morning making study skins.

A rough map:



Another map showing more sample nets:



After a leisurely lunch, a shower, and carefully repacking my Subaru, I decided to explore some shallow canyons away from the main drainage paralleling the main park road. These had net concentrations of goldfinches. Vegetation was very like that about the lodge, except for Pine Canyon, which

TROCHET, J.A.
1992

Journal

Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet.

May 14-18 (cont'd) I wanted to see before leaving this place for the third time. Pine Canyon is reached via a dirt track going first S., then SE, from the main park road. The turn off is through a grassy field just on the lodge side of the low ridge one crests on driving from there to the park personnel residences. The road fords the creek (now with water from recent rains) several times before coming in about 2 miles to a place too eroded to pass over. Shortly above this the canyon forks, the longer fork going off to the E (maybe ENE). On the E and NE facing slopes especially, the relict pinyons here, *Pinus remota*, attain a stature of real pine trees. These form small, closed-canopy stands of 20-30 ft in height, c̄ a few trees a bit taller, & c̄ trees 1-2 ft. dbh. Almost all have green cones now, some very heavily. Some snags were especially impressive as even larger trees. I found no animals limited to this habitat during my brief visit (19:30 - 20:15). Elsewhere in this canyon, the vegetation called to mind that of the rest of the park, though the mix was locally enriched with junipers, too.

I neglected to mention that on Saturday, May 16, having put up my captures from mid-morning by 16:00, I joined a tour of Kickapoo Caverns. This is a Carlsbad in miniature, mostly inactive. Much of the cave was vandalized before there were current sensibilities about such things; still, it was very enjoyable. The caverns were surprisingly warm. No bats were present. Most evenings, at 20:45 or so, I would go up to watch the emergence of *Tadarida brasiliensis* by the thousands from Green Cave, near the N. entrance to the park (Green Cave was the only part of the park I visited in Edwards County.). The NH_3 smell was carried on the NE wind each evening from Green Cave the 2 miles or so to the lodge,

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Kickapoo Caverns State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet.

May 14-18 where my tent was pitched. I left the park after tonight's Green Cave visit.

(exit) Weather May 18 was similar to previous days, humid & cloudy in the morning, with intermittent light showers. Winds were light and variable. In early afternoon skies started to clear and there was continuously sunny sky from 14:30 to 19:45, when it clouded over for sunset. Rain total (rain guage read late afternoon) for the morning was 0.29 inches

Species List for Kickapoo Caverns:

Amphibians: Bufo punctatus	Unidentified Rana pipiens type
Gastrophryne olivacea	Hylactophryne augusti – H.O.
Reptiles: Cophosaurus texanus	Cnemidophorus sp
Crotaphytus collaris	(all lizards seen only in afternoon sun of 5/18)
Birds: Turkey Vulture	Archilochus sp.
	[Green Kingfisher – 1 ♀ Mark Lockwood]
Cooper's Hawk	Golden-fronted Woodpecker
Red-Tailed Hawk	Ladder-backed Woodpecker
N. Bobwhite	W. Wood-Pewee
White-winged Dove	Least Flycatcher
Mourning Dove	Vermilion Flycatcher
Common Ground Dove	Ash-throated Flycatcher
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	W. Kingbird
Greater Roadrunner	E. Kingbird
E. Screech-Owl	Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Great Horned Owl	Horned Lark
[Elf Owl – 1 H.O. Oscar Cummins]	Cave Swallow
Common Nighthawk	Barn Swallow
Poorwill	Scrub Jay
Chuck-will's-widow	Black-crested Titmouse

Texas, J. A.

1992

Journal

Kickapoo Cavern State Natural Area (= State Park Site), 22½ miles N. of Brackettville, Kinney Co., Texas. Elevation 1700 feet.

May 14-18 (cont)

Rock Wren	Varied Bunting
Canyon Wren	Painted Bunting
Bewick's Wren	Dickcissel
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	Canyon Towhee
N. Mockingbird	Cassin's Sparrow
Curve-billed Thrasher	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Cedar Waxwings	Chipping Sparrow
Loggerhead Shrike	Field Sparrow
White-eyed Vireo	Lark Sparrow
Bell's Vireo	[Lincoln's Sparrow – 1 netted O.C.]
Black-capped Vireo	E. Meadowlark
Gray Vireo	Great-tailed Grackle
[Yellow Warbler – 1 netted by O.C.]	Bronzed Cowbird
Wilson's Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Yellow-breasted Chat	Orchard Oriole
Summer Tanager	Hooded Oriole
N. Cardinal	Scott's Oriole
Pyrrhuloxia	House Finch
Black-headed Grosbeak	Lesser Goldfinch
Blue Grosbeak	
mammals: Didelphis	Lepus
Tadarida	Odocoileus virginianus
Canis latrans	Axis deer
Urocyon sp. – macroura? – v. long tail	Jaw – skull
small rodent sp.(s)	Dasypus novemcinctus
Sylvilagus	

Tucker, Jim

1992

Journal

Travel Day

May 19 I had intended to drive all night last night and to arrive at Davis Mountains State Park at opening time this morning. But I quickly fell sleepy, even before getting to Brackettville. I rolled W. on U.S. Hwy 90 to Del Rio, but no further. I spent the night in a motel. I slept late this morning, at a good breakfast at a local diner, then re-supplied myself c̄ cassette recording tape & block ice. Then I hit the road through Comstock, Dryden & Sanderson, stopping briefly in Langtry to see the Judge Roy Bean Museum. Continuing W. on U.S. Hwy 90, I arrived in Marathon about 13:40. I took a turn S. off Hwy 90 at a road signed "County Park". This road ~~that~~ led me back to Marathon Post. This is on the grounds of Fort Peña Colorado, an outpost of Ft. Davis from 1879 to 1893. This 10-acre park, c̄ upstream & downstream riparian continuities onto private land, was described in a prior visit in 1989. Here, expecting to find Carduelis psaltria in fair numbers, I found only C. tristis and C. pinus, despite wide-ranging deployment of my captives over a good 90 minutes. I then returned to Marathon and explored deciduous groves around town. I saw and heard a total of 2 psaltria. I would be unable to complete a sample in this area. I then drove to Davis Mountains State Park, via U.S. Hwy 90 to Alpine then Texas Hwy 118 to the park. I arrived at 20:10 to find my contact person, Kelly Bryan, out of the park on business until the following morning. He and Tom Palmer are the persons I have appointments to see at 08:00 tomorrow.

Mount Livermore, Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

May 20-21 I met Kelly Bryan at 07:30. We went to the offices at the west end of Davis Mountains State Park together, but Mr. Palmer had some sort of

Tucker, John
1992

Journal

Mount Livermore, Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

May 20-21 (cont) administrative emergency and would not see us. The other person who might authorize collecting on the state park & Big Bend Ranch State Park was David Eng. He is not here today and won't be until Friday. There was no one at the Texas Parks and Wildlife office here to give me the authorizations I need on this end.

Kelly Bryan had spent the two days of May 18 & 19 on private property on Mount Livermore, the highest peak in the Davis Mountains. He intended to return that afternoon with ~~David~~ John Lee, who had accompanied him earlier, and Tom Johnson, park superintendent at Balmorhea State Park. Kelly invited me along, and I accepted the invitation.

The four of us loaded our things into the back of Kelly's vehicle and finally departed about 10:30. En route to the mountain, we stopped to look around at various, mostly creek-side localities on the Madera Ranch, spending a total of about an hour at this 6100 ft +/- elevation. We then drove to Bridge Gap, elevation 7311 feet. We made camp and then fanned out to cover the upper areas of the mountain. John Lee & Tom Johnson walked to the summit and worked that area intensively. The intermittently troublesome back that is Kelly's kept in near camp. I walked the broken country of the north-facing slopes of Mt. Livermore, first crossing over the summit, descending a steep west side canyon and working progressively eastward back to Bridge Gap, working ridge crest to canyon to ridge crest to canyon to ridge crest ~~at~~ an average elevation of about 7600 ft to accomplish this. Kelly told me no ornithologist had ever visited this area I walked.

The habitats visited were as follows. The summit of Mt. Livermore (8382 feet) is a bare rock nipple rising about 150 feet above the rest of the mountain top. The south facing slope is covered c̄ dense shrubs forming a chaparral-like expanse. The slope is fairly steep, but the north facing slope is steeper, becoming almost vertical near the summit. To the north drain two canyons running almost parallel for the first

Jeffers, John
1992

Journal

Mount Livermore, Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

May 20-21 (cont) 1½-2 miles. Elevations dropped from 8100 feet at the top of these canyons to about 7000 feet. I descended the summit area in a third canyon, actually. This canyon initially descended very steeply in a wet canyon heavily vegetated with currant & wild rose, running to the north at first, but turning west after about ½ mile. There was an open aspen stand where the canyon direction changed. I crossed a steep ridge to the E. and into Tobe Canyon, the more western of the two parallel canyons mentioned above. The flora of both canyons was similar. As we neared the tops of the canyons were stands of aspens, more extensive in the more eastern canyon; just below the aspens, along the water course (both canyons had live water), were Gambel's Oak, Gray Oak, silver-leaf oak, and cherry (in W. canyon anyway). Away from the wet zone was ponderosa pine & W. white pine; a few of these conifers were scattered in the wetter part of the canyon, and Gambel's oaks were found in pockets away from the riparian strip. In the wet strip there was lots of buckthorn (Rhamnus), some Rosa (rose), currant (W. side only), many, many herbs, & some bunch grass. As the gradient flattened at about 7250 feet there were a few junipers and madrones. The surface water was more intermittent down the canyons. Tobe Spring is at 7100 feet in Tobe Canyon (the more western of the two parallel canyons). I don't know the name of the more eastern canyon. On May 21, I was joined by all others, reversing my traverse about 7600 feet into the E. canyon. John Dee and I continued into Tobe Canyon, covered this to its top, and then down to Tobe Springs. Kelly & Tom returned to Bridge Gap, broke camp and drove to Tobe Springs to pick us up.

The weather May 20 was warm and breezy, c widely scattered afternoon clouds. Temperature 60°-80°F. Winds 5 mph out of W. At 19:30, clouds started to roll in on strong E. winds. At 21:30 a strong thunderstorm

TRICHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Mount Livermore, Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

May 20-21 (con't) came over from the West, and finally died out about 02:00 May 21. May 21 dawned clear, about 50°F. High temp was about 75°F. There were 5-15 mph SW winds and partly cloudy skies in the afternoon.

Species list: (first number - # seen 5/20; second - # seen 5/21)

Amphibian: Canyon Tree Frog

Reptile: Black-tailed Rattlesnake

Birds: Turkey Vulture

Cooper's Hawk

Zone-tailed Hawk (S.A.)

Red-tailed Hawk

Prairie Falcon (S.A.)

Wild Turkey

Montezuma Quail

White-winged Dove

Mourning Dove

N. Pygmy-Owl - 2 (H.O.) 5/20 (S.A.)

Whip-poor-will

White-throated Swift

Magnificent Hummingbird

Broad-tailed Hummingbird

Acorn Woodpecker

N. Flicker

Greater Pewee

W. Wood-Pewee

Dusky Flycatcher

Gray Flycatcher

Cordillerian Flycatcher

Say's Phoebe

Dusky-capped Flycatcher

Ash-throated Flycatcher

Cassin's Kingbird

Violet-green Swallow

Steller's Jay

Scrub Jay

Common Raven

Mountain Chickadee

Black-crested Titmouse

Bushtit

White-breasted Nuthatch

Pygmy Nuthatch

Rock Wren

Canyon Wren

House Wren

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

[W. Bluebird - 2 5/20 T.J., J.E.]

Hermit Thrush - 2 5/20

American Robin - 1 5/20

Plumbeous Vireo

TRUCHET, JOHN

1992

Journal

Mount Livermore, Davis Mountains, Jeff Davis Co., Texas

May 20-21 (cont'd)

Hutton's Vireo	Black-headed Grosbeak
Warbling Vireo	Green-tailed Towhee
Orange-crowned Warbler	Rufous-sided Towhee
Virginia's Warbler	Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Audubon's Warbler	Chipping Sparrow
Black-throated Gray Warbler	Black-chinned Sparrow
Grace's Warbler	[Lincoln's Sparrow - J.E.]
MacGillivray's Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Painted Redstart (SA.)	Pine Siskin
Hepatic Tanager	Lesser Goldfinch
W. Tanager	

mammals: skunk sp. Sylvilagus sp.

Myotis sp

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 I finally got permission to enter Big Bend Ranch from David Ing, resources manager at the Regional TP&W Office at Davis Mountains State Park. He gave me the combination to the locked gate.

I stopped in Alpine en route to 1) get my eyeglasses repaired; 2) fill the cooler with block ice; and 3) get a few groceries. From Alpine I drove to Marfa and then to Presidio, where I went E on FM 170 about 8 miles to a signed turn off for Casa Piedra, and there I turned N up a gravel road, which in a few miles turned back to the E. In about six miles, I reached the locked gate of Big Bend Ranch. I was told that with this acquisition, the state of Texas now doubled state public lands. Kelly advised me to look at four places with the likelihood of having goldfinches. I will describe the ranch portion I explored first, then give detailed accounts of Las Cuevas and Ojito Adentro,

Jones, John
1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 where I collected birds.

(con't) The main road runs almost perfectly E↔W from the W. entrance gate to ranch headquarters, a distance of about 20 miles, traversing in its course the low Bofecillos Mountains. Kelly wanted me to look at water-influenced places near the main road. These were Cañon Largo, Los Cuevas, Ojito Alberto and Tanque de los Ojitos, which are spread out over 16 miles along the road, and are listed in sequence W→E. The desert slopes & flats at this season are in full green foliage, concealing thorns and giving it an uncharacteristic (to me) "soft" look. Creosote is perhaps the commonest plant, but ocotillo (growing in "forests" (almost) in some places), catclaw, white-thorn acacia, honey mesquite, white tarragon, chollas, prickly pears (some w/ very large pads), several other low-growing (up to 14") cacti spp., esp. near igneous rock outcrops, lechuguilla and at least 2 types of yuccas are common local members of the Chihuahuan Desert flora. There is some desert willow in the washes, and some grasses and quite a few wildflower blooms are also notable. The highest slopes are relatively unvegetated, especially those facing S. & W.

Cañon Largo is a natural seep draining into a concrete cattle trough. Surrounding this are large mesquites and another large thorny tree whose id. I cannot provide. Scattered in the immediate vicinity are catclaw acacia & seepwillow, and many other small shrubs of the Chihuahuan thornscrub community. Upslope on a table land 15 ft above the tank and the adjacent wash are some barren flats. A few ocotillos are present here. The N-facing slope is backed by a 25-30 ft vertical rock face, w/ narrow fissures having small tinajas draining the tableland below small pour-offs in the cliffs.

~~Tanque~~ Tanque de los Ojitos, at 16 miles from Cañon Largo, was a major disappointment. It is a natural seep in a shallow ravine, but there is almost

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 (cont'd) no vegetation of any height, certainly nothing to even partly conceal a mist net. At the top is a small cottonwood (8" dbh, 30') and to the E. there is a small hackberry (about 10'), but the rest is short stature thruscrub and bare rock! I'm not at all sure why Kelly recommended it.

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio County, Texas. Elev. 3600 ft.

Las Cuevas is a riparian area along Boquillas Creek in the broad (3/8 mile) desert canyon that is Boquillas Canyon. The canyon is bounded by near-vertical basaltic outcrops. These to N. are 300-400 ft higher than the creek level, those to S. are 700-900 ft higher, but go no farther W. Within these limits is an outcrop of eroded rock, looking like rock advertised as "welded tuff" in Big Bend National Park. There are numerous broad shallow caves in this formation, hence the name of the place. The creek has divided the tuff into N. & S. portions, and the tuff is the visible bedrock in the creek. The N. portion is approx. 80' high, S. portion 45'. This is a significant archeological site, too. Las Cuevas is 6.0 miles from Cerro Largo.

Las Cuevas has three fairly disjunct riparian areas, separated by desert-type growth right to the banks of the creek. Farthest upstream is a 50 yd-length of creek dominated by Salix sp., about 25 trees to 35-40' height growing right along the creek, mostly on the south bank. The willows are almost bookended by two 50' cottonwoods. Set back from the creek 20' on the S. bank is a large willow - 20" dbh & 45' tall. The S. & W. sides of the tree to a height of 30' are covered c̄ grape. This is just 40' downstream from a medium-sized Fremont Cottonwood (14" dbh, 40' tall). There is a fulsome understory of seepwillow and another feathery-looking plant I don't know, plus some 2' grasses. The floodplain widens on the S. bank below this big willow, and is thickly grown with another plant I don't know - it looks like seepwillow spikes 5'-9' tall. Some of this is overgrown by grape and other of it

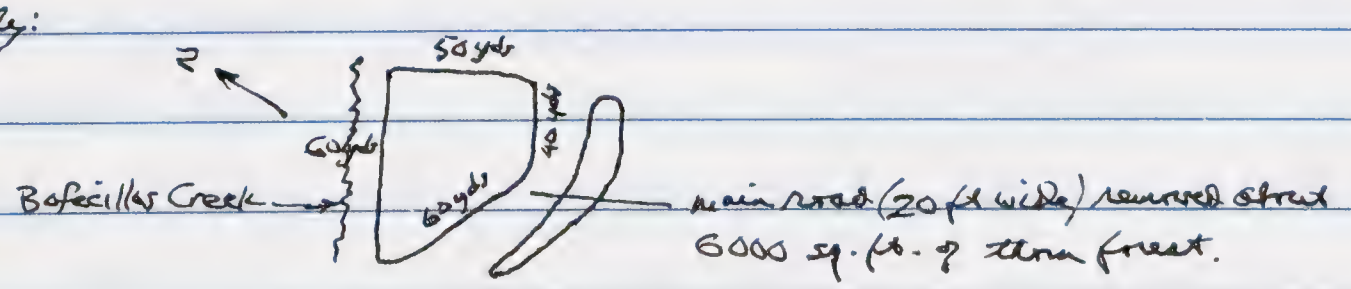
Journal

Jones, Jan
1992

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio Co., Texas Elevation 3600 ft.

May 22-27 (cont) (a lot less) is overgrown by Western Virgin's Bower. The margins of the dilated floodplain are covered mostly by small-medium (6'-18') Rock-berries, many of which are overgrown ≈ grape. There are also some small-medium (8'-12') mesquites. The N. bank has mostly small mesquites, small willows, some catclaw, allthorn, guayacan & sacpuillera. Both upstream and down (esp. latter) one finds a run of buttonbush & lots of the unknown feathery-looking plant.

The south bank mesquites and hackberries are actually continuous in a fairly narrow row atop the bank bounding the floodplain with the middle riparian area some 100 yards downstream. In the channel here are three 30'-45' cottonwoods and some 10 willows in a line on the S. bank. At this point the mesquite and hackberry trees are substantially taller, and with a few Chinese Tallow trees and one wild mulberry tree form a closed canopy woodland 25'-35' tall. Here the hackberries are by far the most numerous tree species. The woodland has a dense understory of unfamiliar thornscrub species and ground cover of unbroken leaf litter. There are numerous low trails through it, most of which show track or scat of collared peccary. The continuous extent of this dense thorn forest is roughly:



The creek maintained a continuous surface flow between these two riparian areas, but the flow became ~~out~~ subsurface just below the thorn forest. In this area, the N. bank had only small (4'-9') mesquites.

The most disjunct riparian section, appearing 80 yards downstream where the surface flow reappears, is dominated by a 40 yard rather continuous

TROCHET, J.
1992

Journal

Las Cuevas, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio Co., Texas. Elevation 3600 ft.

May 22-27 (cont) canopy willow gallery forest on the S. bank. Most are spindly trees 20'-30' tall, but near the upper end are a few big willows, the largest being 30" dbh and 40' tall (some terminal branches are dead). Opposite the big willows are three large Fremont cottonwoods, the biggest in the middle. It is 36-38" dbh & 50' tall. Other than the cottonwoods, there is not much on the N. bank. The understory here is thin - some burned grass and seep willow and a couple trees have grape in the crowns. Just downstream, the creek cascades over a bedrock chute, and below that the riparian vegetation is discontinuous and much smaller, though surface flow continues for at least half a mile. Desert willow becomes very common down here. Between the thin forest & this lower riparian area worked, the creek bed is crossed by the main road and below this the creek bed is sparsely vegetated by that feathery-looking plant.

In the whole area, the creekbed is from 20-45' wide, except at the wide area just below the upper site, where it is 90' wide. Much of it is barren gravel, more or less fine. The confining banks are earthen, 3-5 ft high. In several places the tuff bedrock emerges into view. The creek was recently 8-12" above its current flow level.

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio Co., Texas. Elevation 3850 ft.

May 22-27 Ojito Adentro begins as a spectacular waterfall of Bofecillos Creek plunging 30'-35' into a 5'-8' deep pool of 30' diameter at the base of the canyon's headwall! The headwall vegetation tops a riparian gallery forest area that is about 700 yds long. The lower 250 yards is not closely confined by rock walls, as is the upper 450 yards. The closely confining rock (100-200 ft) appears basaltic, and, due to incline of the rimrock and descent of the creek bed, increases in height from about 30' at the falls to about 90'-100' at the point where the canyon opens up. Below this point, the S. side rim is about 250 yards away from the

TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Rural State Park Site, Presidio Co., Texas. Elevation 3850 ft.

May 22-27 (cont'd) creek; 50-100 yards on the N. The creek gradient below the falls is gentle, the gravel bed no more than 40' wide in the lower (& widest) part. In the upstream portion (through below the falls), much of the creek flow is over and around large boulders. This boulder fall appears to have come from the south wall of the canyon, where there is a ~~step~~ shelf and some boulders arrested there.

Vegetation on the landwall is mostly vine-like shrubs of box elder & maidenhair ferns, the latter especially dense in grottoes on the N. side of the falls. There is a rose thicket on the S. side of the falls. Among the many small to med. size broadleaf trees are a few large (to 45') willows, some Chinese tallow (25-30'), small hackberry and southern tree ✓ can't I.D. Against the N. wall just a bit downstream from the falls are a few fruiting mulberry trees. Some living willows are prostrate on the creek bed. These are covered c̄ grapes, as are some of the trees & shrubs along the N. wall. Movement through the boulder-strewn creek bottom the 100 yds below the falls is difficult. The boulder fall has set some cottonwoods growing at odd angles (willows, too); most of these are medium size trees, but some are 24" dbh or more. In the lower part of the boulder fall area, willows predominate and there are carpets of grapes going up bold walls. The box elder doesn't seem to occur below the boulders. The canyon rims are about 100 yds apart here and the slopes are steep right to the canyon floor (sl. steeper on N. side). On the S. side slope mentioned above, is a small subset of desert vegetation: prickly pear, ocotillo & yucca are visible. Otherwise the desert is little in evidence. In this lower boulder area are two other trees not found above; one looks like walnut, the other bears a large 3-part seed pod & 7-9 leaflets per leaf — I don't know what it is. Buttonbush grows commonly right along the watercourse from here down to the end of the wet strip. Near the bottom of the boulder area the south

Trocaw, J.

1992

Journal

Ojito Adentro, Big Bend Ranch State Park Site, Presidio Co. Texas. Elevation 3850 ft.

May 22-27 Bank becomes earthen, and mesquites and other thornscrubby trees encroach into the riparian gallery woodland. This upperwash 150 yards is green, green, GREEN! Below here, the creek slope levels a bit and about 16 large cottonwoods (to 20" dbh & 60' height) line the drainage, a few small-med. willows admixed. Here bunch grasses first become numerous along the stream & continue so for the length of the wash. Here also the steep part of N. bank falls away from close proximity to the creek, and a slope of dense thornscrub grows on N. side. A 30" dbh, 55' cottonwood stands on S. bank near the middle of a 50 yard discontinuity in the gallery, where deep willow grows on N. side of the creek. Then begins 50 yds of ~closed-canopy, cottonwood gallery woodland c̄ med.-large (10-20" dbh trees, all ~50' tall) cottonwoods; at the lower end, medium-to-large willows bridge a short opening to more such cottonwoods. Tamarisk flats bound this strip. Just opposite the entrance to the woodland from the parking area at the end of the access road is the largest cottonwood - 3'x4' dbh & 65' tall, on N. Bank. Below this the riparian corridor is dominated by willows, punctuated by a few big cottonwoods. The woodland becomes less continuous, until an isolated large cottonwood gives terminal punctuation to the grove. Just below this, the water ceases to flow above ground, to resurface once again in the area of Las Cuevas. Ojito Adentro is about 3.2 miles E. of Las Cuevas.

I note also that green detritus in the riparian vegetation shows that very recently, the water level was 3-3½ feet higher in the creek than presently. This must have been a sight to see!

With habitats described, the remainder of these accounts will be a diary of daily movements and weather, with a terminal species list. The journal entry will read Big Bend Ranch, but the specimens taken here will be labelled according to specific site.

TRACHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. Presidio, Presidio Co. Texas

May 22-27 (cont'd) On May 22, I arrived here from Davis Mountains State Park at 15:20. I first scouted a place to camp, and selected an isolated shade tree near a wind mill just inside the west gate. After pitching the tent I began exploring the areas near the main road having water, the four areas mentioned above ~~and~~ suggested by Kelly Bryan. I did some road hunting 21:15 – 23:00.

Weather May 22 was windy from the time of my arrival to well after dark, mostly S. winds 5–20 mph. Temperature 85° → 65°F; Mostly cloudy to 18:15. A thunderstorm hit camp during night, time unknown.

On May 23, I critically looked for net sites at Las Cuevas and Ojito Adentro. I had all four nets well placed by 11:45, and spent all day but the rainy mid afternoon running from Las Cuevas nets to Ojito Adentro nets and back. During the showers I closed the nets and moved my campsite to Las Cuevas, pitching only the larger tent (now both to work and to sleep in) in the thorn forest. More goldfinches were evident today, but they seem not to stay in the riparian areas, but come in to drink, then leave. Probably owing to wind conditions, I caught no birds at all today. Again I did some road hunting from 21:15–23:00.

Weather May 23 saw dawn with S. winds and thunderclouds to E. & a few scattered clouds to N. & W. There was a light dew. Clouds increased overhead to 10:30. There were light & moderate showers from 13:15 – 15:10, no lightning. It was mostly cloudy the remainder of the afternoon & evening. Winds today blew at one time or another from all points of the compass mostly in the range of 10–20 mph. Temperatures ranged from 65°–85°–70°F.

May 24 saw me open my nets while the bats were still flying, and I worked the nets, running from Las Cuevas to Ojito Adentro & back, all day, despite pretty hopeless conditions after 15:30, owing to wind. I caught

TROCHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 my first goldfinches today, and many other birds as well. A large flock of
(Cont'd) Turkey Vultures settled at sunset on the rocks at Las Cuevas. I walked and hunting again.

The most exciting thing today, and for a long time, really, was the coming to my mist net in the thorn forest of an ocelot, *Felis pardalis*!!! Twice!!! first episode was about 08:00, second about 13:00. Both times I was removing a screaming Bell's Vireo from my mist net (J.A.).

Weather May 24 was much less windy than yesterday. There was a light dew at dawn. No wind until 09:30, then light & variable until about 14:00, when winds became SE 5-15 mph, then SW 10-20 with higher gusts after 15:30. There were a few scattered T-clouds all morning to the E, and scattered clouds locally until 11:45, when it became mostly cloudy, lasting until 16:30, when clouds just about vanished. Toward sunset a few large thunderclouds built up overhead, but these drifted NW slowly. After sunset, they put on a spectacular show of lightning, which I watched for a short while from Cerro Langa.

On May 25, I overslept the sunrise and was just emerging from my tent when a Texas Parks & Wildlife truck drove up. David Sug was driving and accompanying him were Davis Mountain State Park Ranger Mr. & Mrs. Richards. The one unfamiliar person was Billy Pat McKenney from Black Gap Wildlife Area on the E side of Big Bend National Park, and, according to Sug, he was the best tracker in state employ in all of West Texas, at least. I had called Kelly Bryan yesterday evening about the ocelot visits and this was the response. McKenney, whose wife Bonnie I had consulted about goldfinches in the Big Bend area, spent almost 3 hours looking for sign or sighting, but the leaf litter was so complete that he found only one possible track. He thought the habitat was splendid, and was surprised to find something like it here. Sug gave me a short tour of Las Cuevas

Journal

Lerner, J.
1992

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E of Presidio, Presidio Co, Texas

May 22-27 from an archeological viewpoint. In between talking to these visitors, I
(cont) got the Las Cuevas nets up and running by 06:50, but the Ojito Adentro nets
didn't get opened until 07:45. Except the net by my tent in the thorn
forest, I moved all the nets at midday. The nets remained open until 17:00,
long after anything was being caught. After closing the nets I went on
a wild goose chase, suggested by Jay. He described a grove of cottonwoods
at Cattle Tank, a site ENE of the falls stop Ojito Adentro. The place
is accessible only by a long walk from a trailhead about 4 miles beyond
the turn off to Ojito Adentro; the walk itself is about that long, too. I
found the Cattle Tank. It had no water, it had no cottonwoods (a few
mesquites only), and it had no goldfinches. It did have a Big Bend Patch-
nosed Snake & a couple Cassin's Sparrows. It also had a splendid view
of high mountains in the distance in Mexico (Sierra del Nido?).

Weather May 25: variable light breezes early, but mostly still until
15:00. A light dew rapidly evaporated. After 16:00 steady W. winds 5-20
mph increasing toward sunset. Only few clouds 12:30 to 21:30. Big T-
clouds to W. & N., but for the first time since I arrived, none were seen
today in the E. Temperatures 65°–90°–70°F.

On May 26, I ran nets at Las Cuevas & Ojito Adentro from 06:20
to 14:45, when threatening weather & winds prompted me to close those at
Ojito Adentro first, then those at Las Cuevas. I put up yesterday's mist
nets unsuccessfully in mid afternoon, and not feeling very well, I napped
late afternoon & early evening. I briefly road hunted after sunset (21:15
to 22:15) but saw only unidentified small rodents.

Weather May 26 dawned c̄ a solid low overcast, lasting until 08:15,
then slowly clearing until totally clear at 09:30. Then low clouds
reappeared and when there broke up at 14:00, revealed were Thunderclouds

Jackson J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 (cont'd) High above. Skies drifted slowly to ENE. A big cell came close at 17:00, but no rain fell. It was partly cloudy the rest of the day. No wind until 07:30, then W., 2-5 mph until thunderclouds passed by at about 14:00, assoc'd with gusty winds 10-20 mph of variable orientation. Evening wind out of E. 5-10 mph & cool. Temperature range 60°-80°-60°F.

May 27 was a frustrating day as far as getting birds was concerned. The morning hours were as fruitless as any six-hour block of time since I arrived. But I caught no goldfinches (and few birds of any sort) and could find none which I could record & shoot. At midday I took down my nets and packed up to head home for Holly's birthday parties. After a solar-heated shower, I left Big Bend Ranch at 15:00.

Weather May 27: it was a bluebird morning – beautiful bright blue skies with just a whisper of a down-canyon breeze early. After 10:00 SW winds 2-5 mph began. The first few clouds were seen in the W. at 10:45. Stronger winds to 18 mph began about noon, closely followed by the appearance of a fleet of clouds from the SW. Clouds obliterated the blue, but no rain fell a departure.

Species List for Big Bend Ranch May 22-27:

Amphibians: Red-spotted Toad — Canyon Tree Frog
Great Plains Narrow-Mouthed Toad — Leopard Frog sp.

Reptiles: Canyon Lizard — Desert Side-blotched Lizard
Southwestern Earless Lizard — Coachwhip
~~Collared~~ Collared Lizard — Central Texas Whipsnake
Lesser Striped Whiptail — Trans-Pecos Rat Snake
Rusty-rumped Whiptail — Big Bend Patch-nose Snake
Checkered Whiptail — Black-tailed Rattlesnake

TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 (Con't)

mammals: med. bat sp. -	Perognathus sp. - I picked up 5/26 but fumbled (Wayne Gettys ID.)
med - large bat sp.	Dipodomys sp.
Coyote	many small mice seen, not id'd to genus.
Ocelot (S.A.)	Lepus californicus
Skunk sp. - track	Sylvilagus audubonii
Badger	Tayassu tajacu
Rock Squirrel	Odocoileus (Bonivaus) - fan track 5/22, 5/25
Mexican Ground Squirrel	[Bison bison - recognizable pictograph at (Lee Cuevas)]
White-tailed Antelope Squirrel	[Ammospermophilus - seen near Shafter 5/27]

Travel Day

May 27-28 I was no more than five miles N. of Presidio when I had a sudden blow out of my left front tire, pulling me to the shoulder of the highway immediately. I struck a reflector post, shattering the side view mirror and damaging the length of the right side of my car. The shards of the mirror showered the inside of the car, since the right front window was open. I changed tires and resumed my trip but shortly had a gradual loss of power heading up the shallow incline of the Continental divide on Interstate Hwy 10 between Deming and Lordsburg, New Mexico. I made it to the Hachita-Playas exit, then limped back to Deming, going the 35 miles in 2½ hours. I got my problem taken care of at a local garage (fuel filter again) the morning of May 28 and resumed my trip west.

May 28 Explorations near Phoenix, Maricopa Co., Arizona

I called at the Tribal Offices on the Fort McDowell Indian Reservation (northeast of Phoenix), Maricopa Co., where consideration was

Tucker, J.R.

1992

Journal

Expeditions near Phoenix, Maricopa Co., Arizona

May 28 Being or had been given to a request to collect goldfinches on the Verde River where it runs through the reservation. But all cooperation & Angles was suspended because the tribe was having bitter problems & state and federal authorities over gambling operations on the reservation.

I stopped again along the Salt River SW of Phoenix, this time between 115th and 121st avenues. There is still a lot of water in the river, much of it standing now. Still no way to set up nets. I saw and/or heard five lesser goldfinches in 45 minutes beginning at 16:30. I also saw an unbelievably unflappable ♀ bobcat near 115th avenue. We sat & looked at each other for about ten minutes before she got up and slowly walked away.

I continued east on I-10 to I-210 to I-5 to California Hwy 99 & home to Sacramento in time for my daughter's birthday parties.

Gray Ranch, 30 miles S. of Animas, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 I left home June 4 at 23:00 and travelled via California Hwy 99 to Interstate 5 to Interstate 210 to Interstate 10 to Pomona College. I stopped early in the morning of June 5 to see about the status of my request to work in Cobal Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, a request being reviewed by Dr. William Wirtz. He was not in. Then I went to Chaffey College in Rancho Cucamonga to visit Jim deFaucera, but this was unsuccessful, as he, too, was not there. I then drove to Day Canyon to see how many goldfinches were now there. The trend of increasing numbers of psaltria over the last three visits continued with this visit – there were many more lesser goldfinches June 5. I then headed E. on Interstate 10 and drove through the night to the Gray Ranch, where I had an appointment to meet Geoff Batt,

Lucas, John
1992

Journal

Gray Ranch, 30 miles S. of Animas, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 manager of this Nature Conservancy property, early the morning of June 6.

(cont) At 07:15 I met Geoff Batt, having first looked for and found lesser goldfinches at well-watered ranches N. of Gray Ranch headquarters. I was at the ranch to record goldfinches in a variety of habitats in a localized geographic area. Mr. Batt was leading a work party that morning to do some trail maintenance work on the trail to Cistern Saddle in the High Animas Mountains. He lead us up an unsigned dirt road on the west side of the mountains to the trailhead near Black Bill Canyon. En route, we passed a string of moderate-sized oaks near Cattle Tanks, there being several goldfinches there. I walked Black Bill Canyon from 09:30 to 12:45. There's a spring about 1/2 way up running well. The canyon forks several hundred yards above the spring, and the fork draining from the N. has a decent run of water. A series of evergreen oaks mixed with a few junipers and a narrow strip of dense shrubs along the very bottom of the canyon characterized the lower & middle parts of Black Bill Canyon; the upper part of the canyon is more heavily vegetated, with mixed, closed-canopy woodland on the north fork and not quite closed-canopy woodland on the south fork. Both forks had a few pines admixed with the oaks. After leaving Black Bill Canyon, I ascended the trail to Cistern Saddle, just S. of Trujillo Peak. The trail mostly goes through chaparral, but traverses grassy slopes below and goes through the burned remains of pine forest higher up. Here I met the work crew & Batt eating lunch on the saddle, with Batt giving a talk on the local geography & recent land use history. From Cistern Saddle I walked a short ridge going W, the N. face of which had a very nice stand of douglas-fir and pines - big trees. I then walked back toward the saddle and then SSE to a rocky peak - the Continental Divide. At 16:15, I began a descent of Indian Creek (the north one - there are 2 Indian

Lucas, John

1992

Journal

Gray Ranch 30 miles S. of Animas, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 (cont) Creeks in these mountains), and went down about 3/4 miles, to where the creek gradient becomes greater than 100%. This was a mixed coniferous forest which had suffered significant spotty destruction from fire. I hiked out an ENE-WSW ravine under Cistern Saddle at 18:30, back to the trail and down to the car at the trailhead at 19:30 MST. I slept at Howe Camp, but the work crew (from El Paso) was very noisy until 23:00.

Weather June 6 was cloudless all day. There were light SW breezes in the morning and gusty SW winds mid & late afternoon on the ridges. The temperature ranged from 60°-80°-70°F.

On June 7, I was up at 06:00, broke my minimal camp (no tent) and drove to the cienaga behind the Nature Conservancy H.Q. I arrived there at 06:20 and walked the trail the length it went along the riparian corridor, and returned to the car about 07:45. I fed & watered my birds. Then I took a brief tour of wet areas along the road S. of H.Q., and returned to H.Q. at 08:20, where I again met Geoff Babb. He gave me directions to Deer Creek, via the old Culberson Ranch. Now living there are Marca Moore-Craig and Alan Craig. Marca & I briefly (09:50-10:25) looked downstream from the house, where water had been 2 weeks earlier, but no surface water was there now. Marca & Alan mentioned 2 other watered sites upstream, one under a golden eagle nest about 1 mile up and another at a canyon on Lower Deer Creek above Rock Ridge Camp. I headed out at 10:45 toward Rock Ridge Camp. I made frequent stops along Deer Creek, listening and looking in the sycamores & cottonwoods for goldfinches. Because it was rather windy, I didn't hear much of anything. I walked the side canyon above Rock Ridge Camp, a canyon with discontinuous, cottonwood-dominated riparian vegetation with few large trees. At the top of the canyon, a hailstorm/rainstorm suddenly blew over at 12:00 and I ran all the way back to the

Tierney, John
1992

Journals

Gray Ranch, 30 miles S. of Animas, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 car, where I rested. What was intended to be a twenty-minute nap turned
(cont'd) into a 90-minute sleep. At 13:45 I continued up the road, through 3 closed, unlocked gates; beyond the third, the road turned E, away from Deer Creek. So I turned around & parked at the windmill just S. of 3rd gate. I took a compass bearing WNW & took off cross-country, first into one deep, wooded ravine, over a tall ridge, down a second ravine about 3/8 mile until a waterfall and confining canyon prevented further descent. Then, w/ waiting for a thunderstorm to pass over, I surmounted a smaller ridge to a third intermittently watered drainage, beyond which was the obvious scar of a recently bulldozed fire break. Thinking this a route to still higher Deer Creek, I ascended until the fire break ended at a lower slope of a very high ridge. Looking down the scar, I could see a grove of very large sycamores at the bottom, at the confluence of 2 canyons (a windmill was also present there). All this upland country was oak dominated woodland, with some oak savanna to the E of the ascending road. From the sycamore grove, I walked downstream 1½-2 miles, then did a fairly short traverse to the E. on an old roadbed, back to the main road, which I followed back to the vehicle. I arrived there at 19:27. I then drove slowly down to Cullerson, stopping frequently among the sycamores, listening for goldfinches & whatever. I arrived back at the Craigs House at 21:10, and was treated to coffee cake! I left there at 22:00 and returned through the grasslands (w/ unintentional detour to the international boundary when I missed a turn in the dark), stopping at Gray Ranch H.Q. to return the magnetic Gray Ranch signs one adorns one's vehicle with. I then drove to Cloverton Canyon in the nearby Peloncillo Mountains, arriving at my campsite at midnight. I then pitched my tent and fell quickly to sleep.

Swarth, Hbn
1992

Journal

Gray Ranch, 30 miles S. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 (cont) The weather June 7 was dominated by wind after mid-morning. There were often clouds to the E. at dawn. Around 09:15 the first of the clouds started rolling in on S upper SW winds. By 11:20, both the clouds & SW winds were heavier, E winds to 15 mph & higher gusts. Rain & hail fell 12:10 to 12:40. There were three more showers in the afternoon. The storm broke up about 17:00, but lingered still on the highest peaks of the Peloncillos range to NNW, and clouds also persisted well to the SW & SE. The winds finally abated somewhat to 19:00. Temperature range 58°-75°-68°F.

Species List, Gray Ranch June 6-7:

Amphibians: Bufo cognatus - 16+
Bufo alvarius - 1
Bufo punctatus - H.O. at Horse Camp
Scaphiopus sp - 3
Rana catesbeiana - H.O., cienega
Rana (leopard frog) sp. - 1, cienega
Canyon Tree Frog - 100's transforming in lower Deer Creek.

[~~[illegible]~~ toads found along roads 5 nights June 7]

Reptiles: Phrynosoma cornutum - 2
Phrynosoma douglassii - 1
Collared lizard - 1
Side-blotched lizard - several
Tree lizard - many
Mountain Spiny Lizard - 3
Clark's Spiny Lizard - 1
[Desert-grassland Whiptail - N.M.-C.]
Chihuahuan Spotted Whiptail - 2
numerous Cnemidophorus not i.d.'d to species
No snakes

Birds: Mallard - 15 (incl. 10♂ diazi type)
Cinnamon Teal - 8
Turkey Vulture - 15
Cooper's Hawk - 1 ad, pair ♀
Swainson's Hawk - 1
Zone-tailed Hawk - pr., nest
Red-tailed Hawk - 5 ad
Golden Eagle - 1 ad
American Kestrel - 4♂♂, 6♀♀, 1 u
[Wild Turkey - 1, G.B.]
Montezuma Quail - 3 pr, 4 others H.O.
Scaled Quail - 35
Gambel's Quail - 15
Virginia Rail - 2

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Gray Ranch 30 miles S. of Rurales, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 (cont'd)

Killdeer – 10 (incl 1 Upper Deer Creek area)
White-winged Dove – 6
Mourning Dove – 30
Greater Roadrunner – 8
Great Horned Owl – 3
Elf Owl – 2
Burrowing Owl – 2
Lg. owl sp – 1
Lesser Nighthawk – 4
Common Nighthawk – 12
nighthawk sp – 50
Poorwill – 14
White-throated Swift – 8
Magnificent Hummingbird – 1 ♀, 1 H.O.
Black-chinned Hummer – 10
Broad-tailed Hummer – 25
Acorn Woodpecker – 8
Gila Woodpecker – 1
Ladder-backed Woodpecker – 5
Strickland's Woodpecker – 8
N. (Red-shafted) Woodpecker – 6
Greater Pewee – 2
W. Wood-Pewee ≥10 (seems scarcer than expected)
Cordilleran Flycatcher – 4
Black Phoebe – 3
Vermilion Flycatcher – 3
Dusky-capped Flycatcher – 10
Ash-throated Flycatcher – 25
Sulphur-bellied Flycatcher – 1
Cassin's Kingbird – 15
W. Kingbird – 30
Horned Lark – 50
Violet-green Swallow – 12
Barn Swallow – 65
Steller's Jay – 9
Gray-breasted Jay – 60
Scrub Jay – 15
Chihuahuan Raven – 2
Common Raven – 65 (45 in flock below Cistern Saddle)
Mexican Chickadee – 8
Bridled Titmouse – 40
Bushtit – 4 (Inv?)
White-breasted Nuthatch – 6 (all H.O.)
Cactus Wren – 6
Rock Wren – 20
Canyon Wren – 35
Bewick's Wren – 60
House Wren – 8
Ruby-crowned Kinglet – 2 ♂♂ (H.O.)
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher – 1
Hermit Thrush – 5 (H.O.)
American Robin – 2
N. Mockingbird – 45
Curve-billed Thrasher – 9
Crissal Thrasher – 1

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Grey Ranch, 30 miles S. of Animas, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

June 6-7 (cont)

Loggerhead Shrike – 11 (incl pr. F4)
Plumbeous Vireo – 8
Hutton's Vireo – 3
Virginia's Warbler – 7
Lucy's Warbler – 25
Yellow Warbler – 5
Black-throated Gray Warbler – 18
Common Yellowthroat – 10
Red-faced Warbler – 12
Painted Redstart – 2
Olive Warbler – 6
Hepatic Tanager – 16
Summer Tanager – 3 (1 m?)
W. Tanager – 2 (pr.)
Black-headed Grosbeak – 15
Blue Grosbeak – 7
Green-tailed Towhee – 1

mammals: small bat sp(p) – many
med bat sp(p) – several
striped skunk – 1
Coyote – several H.O.
Canis sp. – 1 pup coyote, not fox
straight to mid leg, large eyes & tail extended when trotting
Coati mundi – 2 (1 blonde phase)
Rock Squirrel – 3
Spotted Ground Squirrel – 1
Cliff Chipmunk – 10
small Perognathus/Perognathus type – 2

Rufous-sided Towhee – 200 (pard. low!)
Canyon Towhee – 30
Rufous-crowned Sparrow – 50
Lark Sparrow – 40
Black-throated Sparrow – 3 (ad. F2Y)
Yellow-eyed Junco – 12
Red-winged Blackbird – 15
E. Meadowlark – 80
Great-tailed Grackle – 10
Brown-headed Cowbird – 14
[Hooded Oriole – 2 N.M.-C]
Bullock's Oriole – 20
Scott's Oriole – 30
House Finch – 25
Pine Siskin – 3
Lesser Goldfinch – 30
House Sparrow – 10
Bannertail Kangaroo Rat – 1
non-Bannertail K-rat – 4
pocket gopher sp(p) – many mounds.
Black-tailed Jackrabbit – 15
Antelope Jackrabbit – 1
Eastern Cottontail – 3
Desert Cottontail – 2
} many Sylvilagus – not id'd to species
Mule Deer – 26, all at Cienega 6/7
White-tailed Deer – 8, all upper Deer Creek.

TRICKETT, J. A.

Journal

1992

Ponds along Golf Course Road, Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10 I spent the day of June 8 on a rest day in Clanton Canyon. I slept in late, cooked a big breakfast, wrote up notes, reorganized the packing of the Subaru, cooked lunch, then napped a bit before taking a solar-heated shower. I hit the road for the drive to Big Bend at 15:30, ready for the long drive. From Lordsburg, I called Kelly Bryan for permission to return to Big Bend Ranch, but he said I should talk to Dave Sing in the morning.

June 9 found me short of my destination. Just E. of Sierra Blanca on east-bound Interstate 10, I pulled over for a brief rest, but I slept for 5½ hours, so I didn't make it to Ft. Davis or BBRSNA as I expected. I called before Sing got in and on my second call, he had already left for Lajitas, and would not be back until late in the afternoon. I went to Davis Mountains State Park to await Sing's return. I drove outside the park to explore Limpia Creek, one of the few places in Texas supporting a breeding population of Common Black Hawk. Kelly told me where the nearest nest was, about 2 miles from the park entrance. I finally found the not-so-well-concealed & not-very-well-shaded-against-the-afternoon-sun bulky stick nest when an adult ferrying some food item was "attacked" by 2 large & evidently hungry nestlings. There were fair numbers of lesser goldfinches flying about the cottonwoods down here, too. David Sing did not return until after dark, so my departure for Big Bend Ranch was delayed until 22:00. Again, I got tired en route and slept most of the night in the front seat of my car.

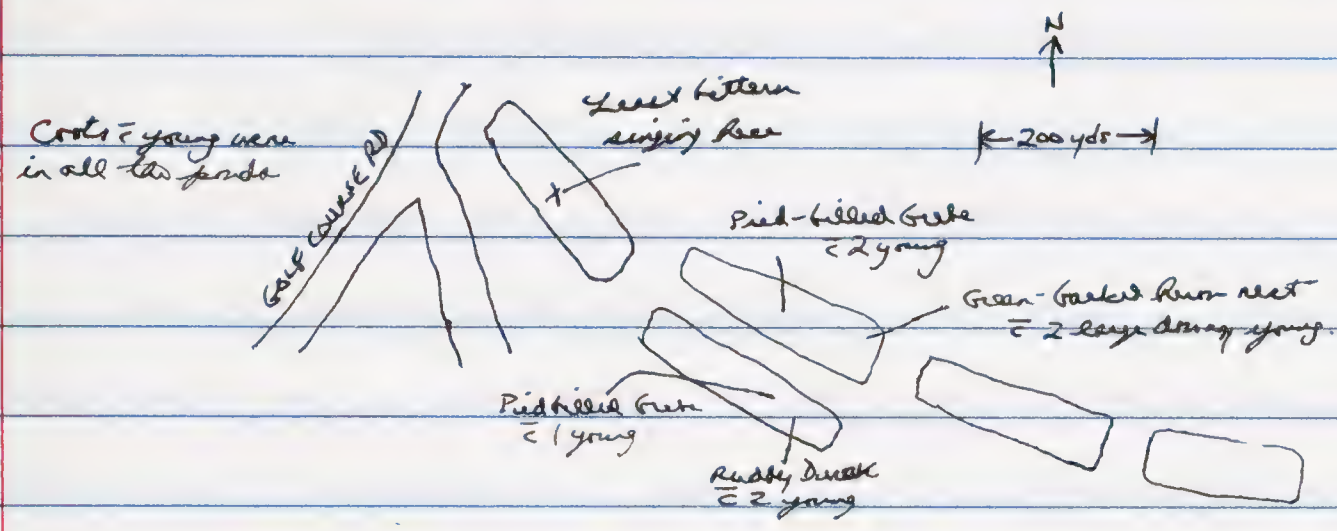
On June 10, I stopped to check a series of ponds along Golf Course Rd in Presidio, at the request of Kelly Bryan. He had been there a few weeks earlier and saw several water birds that he wanted breeding confirmation for. The ponds are the remnants of an old oxbow of the Rio Grande and are five in number. They are variably heavily margined in Scirpus & Typha, with some ponds having tamarisks growing around the margins in

Lockwood, John
1992

Journal

Ponds along Golf Course Road, Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10 (cont'd) places. Vegetation tended to be more luxuriant to the NW in the sequence of ponds. A crude map:



Other birds at the ponds included Burrowing Owl (1 F.O.), Red-shafted Flicker (1), Bell's Vireo (1), Common Yellowthroat (3), N. Cardinal (2), Red-winged Blackbird (6), Great-Tailed Grackle (18); if the ring-necked duck is still around, I missed it during my 08:15-09:30 visit. The weather was clear, 80-85°F, light W. breezes.

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10-A I arrived at the same campsite used earlier at 10:15, set up my tent, put up 2 nets at Los Cuevas and 2 nets at Ojito Adentro. For descriptions of these habitats, see May 22-27, 1992 entries. I also took a look at the real Tanks de los Ojitos, which I didn't see last time. It has more water, more trees and more birds, and lies in a deeper ravine behind that which I mistook for the place.

There have been some minor changes in the habitat here. In the drainage of Bofecillos Creek, wet gravel areas are larger & surface flows slightly lower now at Los Cuevas & Ojito Adentro. Sunned areas of water now have a carpet of algae covering rocks & gravel. Generally there are now fewer flowers and more seeds; the humidity is lower & temperature is much warmer. It is striking that, except for mockingbirds & chats, there

TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10-14 (Cont'd) is far less bird song activity through the day. The dirt road in front of the major archeological site at Las Cuevas has been oiled. I didn't hear the 5♂ Indigo Bunting at Las Cuevas today. I caught no goldfinches today. I did an hour of road hunting after sunset.

Weather June 10: temperatures 85°-105°-85°F. There were a few late afternoon clouds moving to NE, opposite surface winds blowing E→W 5-10 mph. These winds stopped about 19:30. A large line of thunderclouds moved by to the NW, c̄ verga visible. Hot winds resumed out of clear skies at 21:15 and blew in gusts 5-15 mph out of E. at least until 22:30 when I fell asleep.

On June 11, I opened all nets by 06:40, and spent the day running back & forth from Las Cuevas to Ojito Adentro. I also tried the recorder-shotgun approach, but without success. I did catch 3 goldfinches at Las Cuevas. I also refound the ♂ Indigo Bunting at upper Las Cuevas, but he sings much less persistently now. I netted 16 Varied Buntings today, 12 ♂.

Weather June 11 was mostly hot and still: temps 70-105-86. A little breeze blew up in the late afternoon. No clouds were seen until 18:15, and these were well to the west of Presidio/Ojinaga.

On June 12 I worked the nets again all day, in between which I tried to get uncooperative birds to vocalize so that I could record them. I caught 5 more birds at Las Cuevas, but almost all are ♀♀. Ojito Adentro has many birds present all the time, but they seem wise to the nets, which I move frequently. I went to Ojito Adentro at dusk for owling. I heard W. Screech-Owl, no others. I also stayed until well past dark, but heard no W. Mastiff Bat (Bill Rainey said it sounds like a California Towhee in the sky). I got startled by two squabbling, snarling, screeching jack rabbits bolted out of the brush toward me. I was reminded of President

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10-14 Jimmy Carter being "attacked" by "killer rabbits." I suddenly had a lot
(cont'd) more sympathy for him, having jumped onto the hood of my car & pulse
racing when the shaking in the bushes was clearly moving my way. I
again went on a brief road hunt after dark, and listened to the Chicago Bulls
win another NBA title. I restocked my cooler & block ice today and learned
my temperature estimates this visit have been low by about 10°F.

Weather June 12 was still hotter: Temps 75°–115°–90°F. Light E. surface
breeze ~5 mph, picking up to sunset to 10 mph & hot feeling. V. few clouds
today.

On June 13, I overslept a bit, not opening my nets until 07:10.
I caught six goldfinches today, 4 ♂ and 2 juvs. But a check of my catalogue
showed I need adult ♂♂. I tried recording & shooting, but ∅ success.
Thus my net take of Cardueline today was perf. The indigo bunting is gone.

The weather June 13 was more humid & sl. less hot (cooler doesn't
seem the word to associate with June weather here). There was a very light
dew at dawn. An intermittent E. breeze blew most of the morning, becoming
more sustained & out of S. at about 15:00. This was shortly followed by
the appearance of thunderclouds to the E, which briefly shadowed Ojito
Adentro but not camp at Las Cuevas. The temperature range was
about 75°–105°–90°F.

On June 14, I worked nets until noon, again unsuccessfully trying the
tape recorder–shotgun approach as well. I netted 14 lesser goldfinches, but
no adult males. I put up three goldfinches to complete my sample. I
should also note that the indigo bunting is not gone – I relocated it at Ojito
Adentro today. I left Big Bend Ranch at 16:10, heading for Davis Mountains
State Park. The weather June 14 was really a carbon copy of yesterday's,
up until the time I left.

Lowe, John

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10–14 Species list for Big Bend Ranch June 10–14:

(cont'd)

Amphibians: Red-spotted Toad
Great Plains Narrow-mouthed Toad
Canyon Tree Frog
Leopard Frog sp.

Reptiles: Southwestern Earless Lizard
Canyon Lizard
Collared Lizard
Rusty-rumped Whiptail
Seven-striped Whiptail
Checkered Whiptail
Desert Side-blotched Lizard
Coachwhip
Bullsnake
W. Black-necked Garter Snake
Black-tailed Rattlesnake
Mojave Rattlesnake
W. Diamond-back Rattlesnake
Trans-Pecos Copperhead.

Birds: Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
Scaled Quail
Killdeer
White-winged Dove
Mourning Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo – 1, 6/13 O.A.
Greater Roadrunner
W. Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Elf Owl
Lesser Nighthawk
Common Nighthawk
Common Poorwill
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cliff Swallow
Common Raven
Verdin
Cactus Wren
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher
N. Mockingbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
Loggerhead Shrike
Bell's Vireo
Gray Vireo – 18 singing in canyon à deux 6/14
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager

Texas, J. A.
1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 22-27 (cont'd)

Birds: Mallard
[Black Vulture - 1 N. of Presidio 5/27]
Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
Scaled Quail
Killdeer - nest c 4 eggs n. HQ.
White-winged Dove
Mourning Dove
Greater Roadrunner
W. Screech-Owl
Great Horned Owl
Elf Owl
Lesser Nighthawk
Common Nighthawk
Common Poorwill
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
N. Wood-Pewee
Black Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cliff Swallow
Common Raven
Verdin
Cactus Wren
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
Black-tailed Gnatcatcher
N. Mockingbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
Loggerhead Shrike
Bell's Vireo
♂ singing Tex Cuevas 5/22
Warbling Vireo - ♀ netted " " 5/24
Wilson's Warbler
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager
W. Tanager - ♀ netted Tex Cuevas 5/24
N. Cardinal
Pyrrhuloxia
Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting - 5/4 ♂ on territory Tex Cuevas
Varied Bunting
Canyon Towhee
Cassin's Sparrow
Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Brown-headed Cowbird
Hooded Oriole
Scott's Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch (S.A.)
House Sparrow - only at ranch H.Q.

TRUCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

June 10-14 (cont)

N. Cardinal	Black-Throated Sparrow
Pyrrhuloxia	Brown-headed Cowbird
Blue Grosbeak	Hooded Oriole
Indigo Bunting	Scott's Oriole
Varied Bunting	House Finch
Canyon Towhee	Lesser Goldfinch
Rufous-crowned Sparrow	
mammals: unid. bat sp.	Dipodomys sp.
Coyote	many small mice - fewer than first trip - much less full
gray fox	
skunk - scent	Tejus californicus
rock squirrel	Sylvilagus
Mexican ground squirrel	Tayassu tajacu
spotted ground squirrel	Odocoileus hemionus
white-tailed antelope squirrel	

Limpia Creek Section (Formerly Rude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15-21 On packing up at Big Bend Ranch, I noted that my liquid nitrogen has almost evaporated from my tank. So instead of driving directly to the Davis Mountains, I made a substantial detour to Midland, Texas. Driving in the dark, I saw a partial lunar eclipse. In the morning I bought the liquid N_2 (at less than half the so-called discount price U.C. receives from its supplier), also had my tire patched, and returned to Davis Mountains State Park via Interstate Hwy 20 to Texas Hwy 17, then a short way on Texas Hwy 118. I set up my two tents and two mist nets and scouted that portion of the park along Limpia Creek briefly. Kelly kindly invited me to supper with his family and I enjoyed an evening of Hearth & Home, even though the Home & kids were not my

Lockwood, John
1992

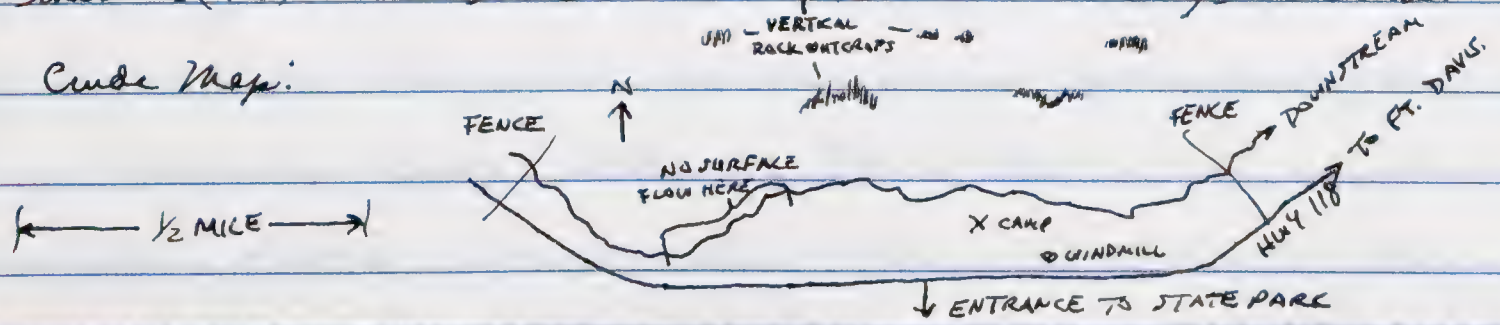
Journal

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Crude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15-21 (cont'd) own. After dark I returned to my camp and slept soundly in the relatively cool night air.

On June 16, I was up at 06:40 to open the 2 nets and to thoroughly walk the area. The habitat I worked extends along a 1 1/4 mile stretch of the creek on the NE side of State Hwy 118, opposite the automobile entrance to the campground at DMSP. My camp is on the edge of the creek flood plain about 150 yds upstream from an inactive windmill in a site dominated by 6 large (45-50' tall) oaks (gray oaks, I believe), growing on a 10' bench above the floodplain. Also present are several large (35') junipers, and there is a discontinuous understory of small junipers, agarita (in fruit) and catclaw acacia. Other shrubs that I can't identify are also present. Another small group of large oaks is 50 yds W. (upstream). The flood plain itself is dominated by mixed shrubs, including, but not limited to, agarita, 2 species of Rhus (skunkbush & desert sumac), catclaw, Rockberry, Apache plume, small junipers & others. Scattered large junipers are the biggest trees, and there are a few large desert willows, but the most numerous trees are small & medium Mexican walnuts, which form copses in some places. There are expanses of grass, too, of several species mostly 3-6" tall, some a bit taller & not forming a carpet, including the obnoxious (to me) grass-burr. Prickly pear and cane cholla are also in this immediate area, with larger examples to be seen upstream & down. My first 2 nets, put up yesterday, are within 40 yds of camp, the longer under the oaks right here & the other against a short row of small to medium (12') walnut trees on the 10-ft bank overlooking the creek.

Crude Map:



TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft

June 15-21 (Crick) The flat flood plain on this S. side of the creek is in contrast to the steeply sloping hill opposite. The southwest facing slope is covered c̄ browner grass than this side & has less robust-looking brush except in a couple ravines under some vertical basaltic outcrops & on E.-facing slopes. There are some scattered oaks and junipers with one fair concentration of oaks in a southeast draining ravine. The hill appears to top out about 300 ft above the creek. Limpia Creek itself is without any significant gallery forest in this stretch—only one small cottonwood. Sage-willow is the common plant—growing usually 4-6 ft high—at the stream's near margins. Mostly the creek is naked gravel & cobbles. The stream itself is very cool, and has filamentous green plants growing in the bottom and (less regularly) on the margins. The stream flows for long stretches above ground but is discontinuous upstream. Isolated pockets of surface water are particularly choked c̄ algae.

Downstream 250 yards the floodplain narrows to about 50 yds. Between camp & there desert willow is common and Rocky reaches a medium size and forms respectable copses, certainly large enough to conceivably shelter a mist net, especially where there are some walnuts admixed. Hackberries do likewise upstream, where there are also a few raspberries and mimosa, but there are also several large oaks on the far bank of the creek upstream, where the drainage swings to this side of the flood plain. Then, too, could make decent net sites.

Beginning downstream about 2/3 mile, on private property, and continuing for several miles, Limpia Creek has an impressive gallery forest of very large cottonwoods. Floods & cattle have taken & kept out the understory in most places, however. There are still cattle in this stretch, too—strays.

TROCHET, JA.

1982

Journal

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15–21 from the ranch upstream. Undessicated cow pies attest to their recent intrusion.

In contrast to Big Bend Ranch, I had no trouble netting adult ♂ goldfinches here – six of seven birds (all ♂♂) are adults.

Weather June 16 had a temperature range of 55°–92°–75°F. There was a light down-canyon breeze in the early morning, but it fell still from 08:20 to 11:30, then variable, mostly W. breezes. No dew this morning, no clouds all day.

On June 17, I caught four more goldfinches, all adult males. I saw several ♀♀, but only early & late, except near the gate to the highway. There may be a nest near there. I may have to put up the other two nets tomorrow. This morning at 07:10, while I was sitting in my camp chair watching my nets, a ♂ gray fox walked toward me and sat and watched me from a distance of about 60 feet. He watched me for about 1½–2 minutes, then turned around and walked away, not bothering even to look back.

The weather June 17 was better, ē temps 60°–100°–80°F. Except down-canyon dawn breeze, no wind today until 15:30, when gusty 5–15 mph W. winds blew until 19:45, then gradually abated. It was still at sunset. No morning dew. No clouds today, though there was a bit of haze in the E. at sunrise.

June 18 was a poor day for netting goldfinches (or anything else), owing to the winds. The two new nets put up before sunrise had no fair testing today. I saw a whipsnake near one of my nets, but it wasn't until after dark that visitors to my camp came calling today – just after sunset, still pretty light, I saw the gray fox again. Well after dark (22:30) about 5 collared peccaries nosed around camp, and about 15 minutes after they

TROCHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

Limpia Creek Station (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15-21 left, a striped skunk cruised through.

(cont'd) Weather June 18 was hot, with temps 65°-95°-78°F, but the winds that blew all day did help make the heat more tolerable. There was a light dew at dawn. No clouds all day.

The creek surface flow is a bit less and the water temperature a bit warmer than on arrival.

On June 19, I worked the nets as usual during the day, catching 3 goldfinches in the process. Despite providing caged birds with food, water & shade, the heat is taking a toll on these birds. Even one of my long-term captives, a Judean bird from Utah, looked unlikely to survive for long. On the lighter side, I established a new personal record for the largest bird caught in a mist net – a ♀ wild turkey!! At my approach to the net, she tore a huge hole in the bottom shelf!

June 19 was again hot and a bit humid. Temperatures ranged 60°-88°-80°F. Aside from the early down-canyon breeze, there wasn't a breath of air movement today. The first clouds I've seen here were today's thin, wispy plumes mostly in the E. & SE. They never shadowed my camp.

On June 20, I repeated my routine of checking nets while weather permitted. I caught four goldfinches early. During inclement weather in the afternoon, after putting up today's specimens, I checked downstream for possible net sites. I found a couple places well shaded in the morning, but I don't think I'll need them after this morning's success. As I expected, my Utah Judas finch died in the night.

The weather June 20 changed significantly from the previous pattern. Temperatures ranged only from 60°-85° (75° ~ thunder showers started) – 70°F. A mild W. surface wind until about 11:10 abruptly gave way to gusty 5-15 mph

Texas, Jeff

1992

Journal

Limpia Creek Station (formerly Pinto Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15-21 (cont'd) E. winds. High elevation winds pushed clouds WSW → ENE. The cloud cover thickened and was very dark to 12:30. It sprinkled at 11:45, then steady moderate rain 14:10 – 16:45, then heavier rain attended by lightning & thunder. This lasted until 18:30, after which there were intermittent showers until at least 22:30, when I fell asleep.

On June 21, I made a run to Presidio ponds (those I visited June 10) with Kelly Bryan. We found breeding evidence for least bittern (juv. ♂ & ad. several "singing" ♂♂), otherwise nothing new. We were back by mid-morning. I opened my nets at 09:30 and by 10:30 I had goldfinches enough to complete my sampling requirements. Getting them to vocalize was frustrating. I put up specimens late afternoon, write up notes and packed everything except the tent & sleeping bag in anticipation of an early departure tomorrow.

Weather June 21 was very pleasant. Temps ranged 60°–90°–75°F. Light dew in A.M. at Presidio. Gentle breezes in the morning hours, W. winds 5-10 in the afternoon. Few scattered afternoon clouds, no rain.

Species list Davis Mountains State Park June 15–21:

Amphibians: leopard frog sp. — canyon tree frog

Bullfrog

Reptiles: Crevice Spiny Lizard — Bogert's Snake

E. Fence Lizard — Black-necked Garter Snake

Striped Whipsnake

Birds: Anas sp. – 1 H.O. 6/16 — Killdeer

Turkey Vulture — Band-tailed Pigeon

Red-tailed Hawk — White-winged Dove

Wild Turkey — Mourning Dove

Montezuma Quail — Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Texas, J.

1992

Journal

Limpia Creek Section (formerly Prude Ranch), Davis Mountains State Park, Jeff Davis Co., Texas. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15-21 (cont'd)

W. Screech-Owl
Common Nighthawk
Poorwill
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
W. Wood-Pewee
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
Cassin's Kingbird
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Scrub Jay
Common Raven
Black-crested Titmouse
Bushtit
Cactus Wren
Rock Wren
Canyon Wren
Bewick's Wren
N. Mockingbird
Curve-billed Thrasher
Phainopepla
Summer Tanager
N. Cardinal
Black-headed Grosbeak
Canyon Towhee
Rufous ~~-sided Towhee~~ Crowned Sparrow
Black-chinned Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Black-throated Sparrow
Brown-headed Cowbird
Scott's Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch
House Sparrow

THE FOLLOWING BIRDS WERE RECORDED ALONG LIMPIA CREEK NR. BLACK HAWK NEST 2 MI. DOWNSTREAM

Common Black Hawk
American Kestrel
Scaled Quail
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
Horned Lark
Loggerhead Shrike
European Starling
Great-tailed Grackle

mammals: ~~coyote~~ red fox sp
Coyote
gray fox
striped skunk
collared peccary
mule deer

Lucas, John

1992

Journal

Palo Duro Canyon State Park, 18 miles E. of Canyon, Randall & Armstrong Counties, Texas.

June 23-24 I left Davis Mountains State Park at 05:20, well before sunrise, in search of goldfinches in the panhandle of Texas. Kelly Bryan gave me phone numbers for several contacts in that part of the state. Only Ken Seyffert in Amarillo could say he had seen lesser goldfinches this year, and he was not very encouraging. He had found them only at Palo Duro Canyon State Park, and in low numbers. Most years he finds them also in Lake Tanglewood, just S. of Amarillo, and in favored spots along the Canadian River N. of the city. Not this year. June 22 was a travel day and I took State Hwy 17 from Ft. Davis to Pecos, then Interstate 20 to Big Spring, then U.S. Hwy 87 to Canyon (US 87 becomes Interstate 27 in Lubbock), then E. on Texas State Hwy 217 to the park entrance. Having looked for used book stores in Midland, Odessa, Big Spring & Lubbock, I arrived too late for entry to the park. So I retreated a short way and slept in my car along the highway. It rained hard at intervals during the day and esp. during the night.

I was second in line when gates to the state park opened on June 23. The park superintendent is Elon Baker, but he has been gone a couple days and is not expected back until tomorrow. Other staff want to defer to him the decision on where in the park I can collect birds, assuming they are here in sufficient numbers. On the recommendation of park ranger Karen I headed for the Sunflower Campground, which is for tents only. There I made camp in site #62, on the east end of the camping area. There was some standing water & lots of wet ground, evidence that the stream, the Prairie Dog Town Fork of the Red River, had recently come out of its banks. The river carved a stunningly colorful canyon in forming from the high plains to the West eastward to the low elevation grassland. The canyon trending NW → SE. Reddish browns, ochre, yellows, even purplish brown color the canyon slopes. Very pretty.

Trocha, J.

1992

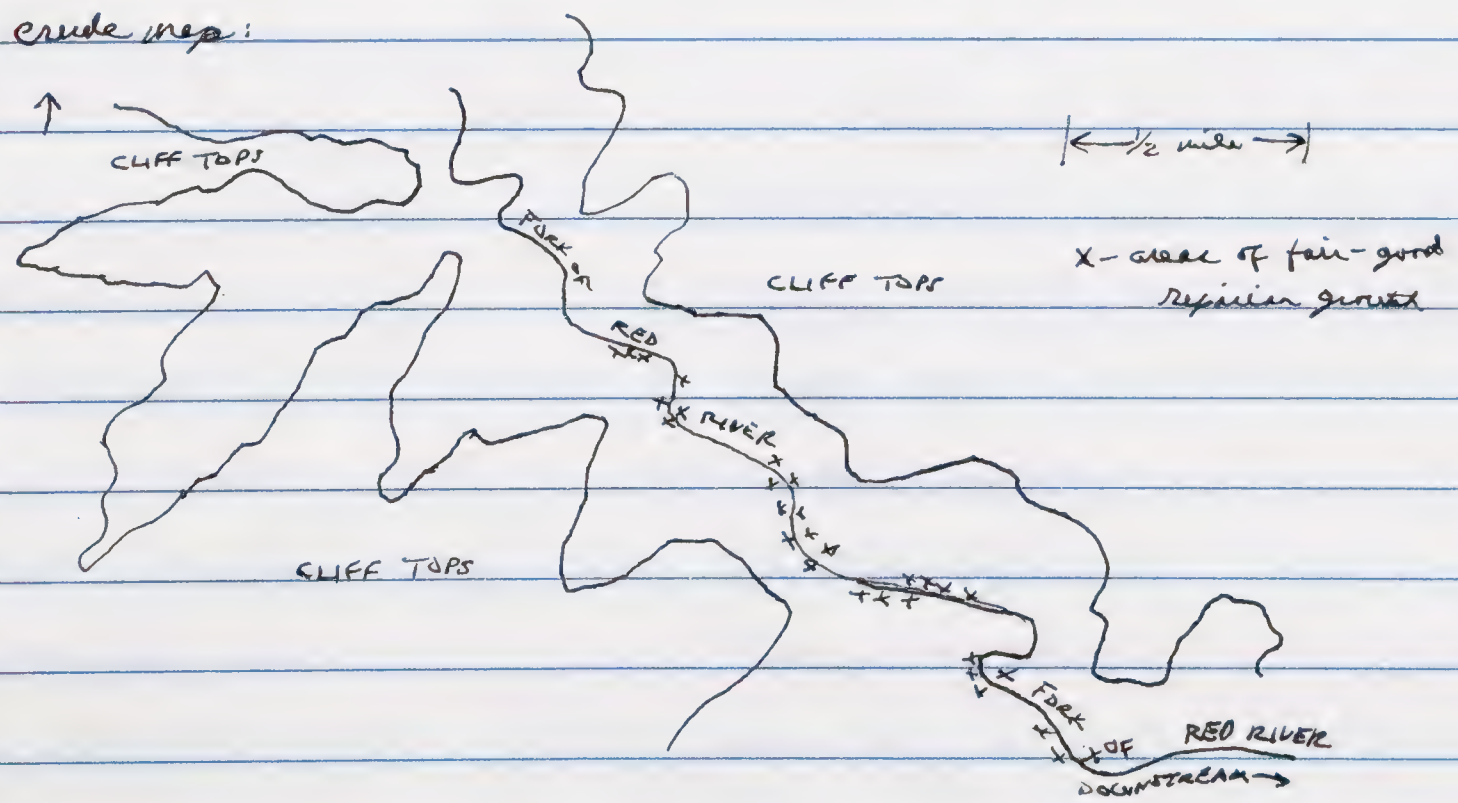
Journal

Palo Duro Canyon State Park, 18 miles E. of Canyon, Randall & Armstrong Counties, Texas

June 23-24 (cont) There were several habitats seen in the park. Above the canyon rim there was the mesquite/grassland of the Llano Estacado; within the canyon I saw brushy/grassy areas, some juniper dominated hills & slopes, and riparian woodlands. I spent my time looking for goldfinches in the riparian zone and its ecotones, and it is there I will describe, aided by a park road-list of common plants.

In River banks vegetation is characterized by few trees. Cottonwood is foremost among them. There are a few mesquites close to the river edge, but most of those I saw were set back from water's edge a ways, as were net-leaf hackberry & little leaf sumac and some one-seed juniper. Coyote willow and tamarisk to 12' in height covered more area than any other plants. Dry shelfs adjacent to the river had prickly pear & yuccas. Herbaceous plants included star thistle, Helianthus, Gaillardia, horse mint, aster, cocklebur, & Mexican hat. Most cottonwoods were 1-2' dbh & 30-40' tall. Closed canopy galleries were uncommon and none was extensive. The riparian zone was seldom more than fifty feet wide.

crude map:



Texas, Jon

1992

Journal

Palo Duro Canyon State Park, 18 miles E. of Canyon, Randall & Armstrong Counties, Texas.

June 23-24 (Cont'd) I scouted by automobile the length of the stream within easy walking distance of the park road. Promising areas were explored on foot, but I found no goldfinches June 23.

Weather June 23 was windy but otherwise pleasant. Winds came up about 09:30 and swirled in the canyon bottom, though the light clouds that appeared after 11:00 blew consistently W→E all day. Temperatures ranged from 70°F - 95°F - 80°F

On June 24, I repeated the survey of the riparian areas of the park, this time visiting the downstream half or so of area in easy walking distance from the road. This section had almost all the promising habitat. Again, I saw no goldfinches. The only lesser I saw in this park were the three that came to my caged birds while I was packing up to leave midmorning. I left the park at 10:15.

Weather this morning was very pleasant. There was a light dew, only light breeze and no clouds. Temperature 70°-80°F.

Species list:

Amphibians: anuran sp. - H.O.

Reptiles: Sceloporus undulatus — Thamnophis sp. (sauritus by range)

Birds: Turkey Vulture — Mourning Dove

Mississippi Kite — Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Red-tailed Hawk — Greater Roadrunner

American Kestrel — E. Screech-Owl - H.O.

Wild Turkey - track — Great Horned Owl

N. Bobwhite - H.O. — Common Nighthawk

Scaled Quail - — Belted Kingfisher

Killdeer - H.O. — Golden-fronted Woodpecker

Lowder, John

Journal

1992

Palo Duro Canyon State Park, 18 miles E. of Canyon, Randall & Armstrong Counties, Texas

June 23-24

Golden-fronted x Red-bellied Woodpecker	European Starling
Ladder-backed Woodpecker	Warbling Vireo
N. Flicker – H.O.	N. Cardinal
Ash-Throated Flycatcher	Blue Grosbeak
W. Kingbird	Indigo Bunting
Scissor-tailed Flycatcher	Painted Bunting
Cliff Swallow	Canyon Towhee
Blue Jay	Rufous-Crowned Sparrow
Scrub Jay	Lark Sparrow
American Crow	Brown-Headed Cowbird
Tufted Titmouse	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Bushtit	House Finch
Rock Wren	Lesser Goldfinch
Blue-gray Gnatcatcher	
N. Mockingbird	
mammals: striped skunk	deer – track
racoon – track	

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 2 miles E & 3 miles N. of Chaffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Nat'l Forest, San Bernardino Co., Calif. Elev. 2800 ft.

June 25-28 From Palo Duro Canyon I drove N. to Amarillo, Texas to pick up west-bound Interstate 40 and head to California. I left I-40 at Ash Fork, Arizona and drove south on US Hwy 89. I got sleepy southwest of Prescott, and rested a few hours in my car. I continued on Hwy 89 to Cottonwood, Arizona, where I picked up State Highway 71 to U.S. Hwy 60, to Interstate 10. I got sleepy again before crossing into California, and spent a few more

Terry, J.
1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 2 miles E & 3 miles N. of Chaffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Nat'l Forest, San Bernardino Co., Calif. Elevation 2800 ft.

June 25-28 (cont) Hours sleeping in my car at a roadside rest a few miles E. of Ehrenberg, Arizona. I then continued W. on I-10 to Interstate 15 north to the Foothill Blvd exit, W. to Etiwanda Ave., N. on Etiwanda to the gravel road and locked gate below Day Canyon. I arrived at 10:45 PDT, June 25, pretty good time, though I benefitted from crossing two time zone boundaries. I have only a few days left on my collecting permit for California, and I still need birds for the far south part of the state. I walked up toward Day Canyon and found that lesser goldfinches are really numerous here, even about the sage slopes below the canyon proper. They are quite common about the mouth of the canyon. I hiked in with my nets and carry cages. By 14:45 I had all 4 nets set up for the afternoon.

The habitat was described on a visit this past April, c/o Jim DeFaveri. The only significant difference is that the grass, then green, is now brown & dry. Because the area around the locked gate is used as a target range, I did not camp in the canyon, but stayed with my vehicle during the night, and I hiked out at least twice during the day to check on my stuff. I caught no goldfinches June 25. I moved my nets late in the afternoon to sites that would be shaded from the morning sun.

Weather June 25 in the afternoon was clear and windy, c/o W. winds 10-20 mph, perhaps a bit higher away from the relative protection of the canyon. Temperature 85°-75°F.

On June 26, I hiked up in the dark and opened my nets as it was just getting light. When I walked back down to check on my car, I noted about 10:30 that goldfinches were probably numerous enough on the slopes to warrant trying to mist net birds down there. On my midafternoon car check, I brought down one net to set up near the pine grove, and at sunset I brought out

Tuchio, J.

1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mountains, 2 miles E & 3 miles N. of Cheffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Nat'l Forest, San Bernardino Co., Calif. Elev. 2800 ft.

June 25-28 (cont'd) Another net to set up by the eucalypts. I caught seven goldfinches today, all before 10:30. Because of insecurity about my vehicle & belongings, I am not putting up specimens here, but I will wait until I get back home.

Weather June 26 was pleasant in the morning, c̄ light breeze down canyon early giving way to light W. winds 5 mph until 10:30 then increasing steadily to 10-20 mph by noon and continuing the rest of the day. There were a few clouds over the San Gabriels, and also to the east over the San Bernardino Mtns, in mid & late afternoon. Temp. range about 60°-85°-75°F.

On June 27, I ran the same routine as the previous day, except that two of my nets were on the fajada below the canyon mouth, and two remained in lower Day Canyon proper. I should have left all the nets in the canyon, since all ten birds taken today were from the canyon, in which case I might have caught enough birds to complete a point sample. These birds caught today made 17, all kept alive for later recording & specimen preparation.

Weather June 27 was just about identical to yesterday, no difference, really, that I could discern, except perhaps a bit fewer clouds noted.

On June 28, I caught the last 3 goldfinches by 06:20; I never even opened the fajada nets this morning. I packed up my mist nets & poles and handed them back to the car, repacked my vehicle and was ready for the drive home by 08:30.

Weather the morning of June 28 was cool, cloudless & still. The air was actually a bit hazy. Temp. 60-70°F.

Species list Day Canyon June 25-28:

Amphibians: California Tree Frog.

Reptiles: *Sceloporus occidentalis* *Cnemidophorus* sp.

Turner, Jon

1992

Journal

Day Canyon, San Gabriel Mtns 2 miles E & 3 miles N of Chaffey College of Rancho Cucamonga, San Bernardino Nat'l Forest, San Bernardino Co. Calif. Elev. 2800 ft.

June 25-28 (Cont'd)

Lampropeltis getulus	Pituophis melanoleucos
Lampropeltis zonata	Crotalus viridis
Birds: Turkey Vulture	Canyon Wren
Red-tailed Hawk	Bewick's Wren
American Kestrel	House Wren
California Quail	W. Bluebird
Band-tailed Pigeon	American Robin
Mourning Dove	Wrentit
Greater Roadrunner	California Thrasher
Great Horned Owl	Warbling Vireo
Poorwill	Orange-crowned Warbler
Black-chinned Hummingbird	Yellow-rumped
Anna's Hummingbird	Black-headed Grosbeak
Costa's Hummingbird	Lazuli Bunting
Downy Woodpecker	Rufous-sided Towhee
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker	California Towhee
Pacific Slope Flycatcher	Black-chinned Sparrow
Ash-throated Flycatcher	Brown-headed Cowbird
Violet-green Swallow	N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Steller's Jay	House Finch
Rock Wren	Lesser Goldfinch
mammals: bat sp.	California Ground Squirrel
raccoon-track	White-tailed Antelope Squirrel
coyote	Merriam's Chipmunk
bobcat-track	small rodent sp(p).

Lucas, J.

1992

Journal

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta Co, California Elevation 500 ft.

June 29 I drove from Day Canyon to Sacramento (with a brief stop in Duarte to see my wife's parents) in near-record time. I deposited the goldfinches in the aviary and washed clothing and person, and, after a short nap I was ready to continue N. on I-5 to the Hansen's property to complete a sample begun in March. However, no one was home to answer my phone request for permission at an hour when I might still net birds there June 28 (that might have been some sort of record-collect birds in San Bernardino Co. & Shasta Co. the same day!). Kathie consented to my return, and even permitted me to drive up that night. I arrived at 22:30.

I set up 4 nets, two up and running before sunrise. It was slow, steady work all day, after a short-out until 09:00. When Kathie got home about 13:00, she was upset to see me putting up specimens on the driveway, and asked that I wait until I got home to prepare any others. I caught my 25th goldfinch, the ninth today, at 19:00. There were still wild birds about, but I elected to take down my nets and call it a day.

For a description of the habitat see my notes from late March, 1992. The grass is now dry & brown, whereas it was fresh & green in the spring. Water no longer stood in the low spot behind the house, but goldfinches & other birds frequently used two bird baths, one in front of the house, the other in back.

Weather today was hot & pretty still, without cloud cover. Temperature range 65°–88°–85°F.

Species list:

Mammals – none

Birds: Turkey Vulture — Mourning Dove

Red-tailed Hawk — Hummingbird sp.

American Kestrel — Acorn Woodpecker

TRACHET, J.A.

1992

Journal

22491 Willow Drive, Palo Cedro, Shasta Co., California, Elevation 500 ft.

June 29 (cont'd)

Nuttall's Woodpecker	European Starling
Scrub Jay	Lark Sparrow
American Crow	Brewer's Blackbird
Plain Titmouse	House Finch
White-breasted Nuthatch	Lesser Goldfinch
W. Bluebird	House Sparrow
American Robin	

remarks: none

Skeleton Canyon, Peloncillo Mts., Coronado National Forest, 17 miles S. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico

July 7 My daughter Renee has accompanied me on this trip to the Southwest, a trip to complete, if possible, some partial samples from earlier field work. Foremost among these are from Washington Ranch in SE New Mexico & from the Little Colorado River near Holbrook, Arizona. We left Sacramento July 4 at 20:40, stopping off briefly at MVZ, then off to the Southwest via Ashby Ave → Interstate 580 → I-5 south to I-210 east → Interstate 10 east. Unfortunately in the 110°–115°F temperatures of Arizona, Renee fell ill. Our progress was slowed and we had to spend the night (JULY 5-6) at a motel in Wilcox, Arizona. She slept in until 09:15. We enjoyed a leisurely brunch at the local greasy spoon (pretty good food actually). By 11:00 we were rolling again, this time with an afternoon in the Chiricahua Mountains in mind, via Arizona Hwys 186 & 181. In the Chiricahuas, we made a brief pass by Rustler Park, Bottleneck Saddle, & the Southwest Research Station, and we more patiently enjoyed a short walk on the South Fork Trail in Cave Creek Canyon. We ran into Dave Ribble, recent MVZ alum, and his

TRACHET, J.A.

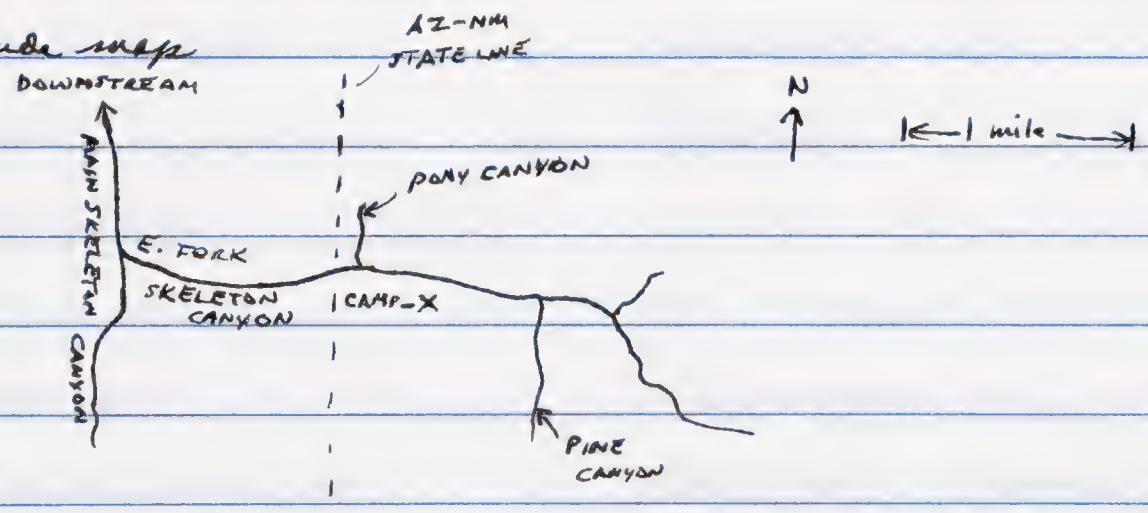
Journal

1992

Skeleton Canyon, Peloncillo Mtns, Coronado National Forest, 17 miles S. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico.

July 7. father. Renee was still fatigued from yesterday and wanted to camp, but I wanted to get into New Mexico tonight. I compromised. We drove from South Fork (after supper in the picnic grounds at the end of the road) SE to Skeleton Canyon, in the Peloncillo Mountains just across the state line. We arrived at 19:20, and I barely got the tent set up before a thunderstorm came right over the top of us. Renee & I cowered in the car until we could safely move to the tent. That was at 21:00. The storm did not abate until 23:00

A crude map



This is a canyon where dominant trees are oaks and junipers. There appear to be 3 species of evergreen oak and 2 species of juniper. The largest oaks grow in the floodplain of the creek, where the riparian woodland is widely admixed with Arizona sycamore, Arizona walnut, velvet ash, ash, a few pines, a rare cottonwood & a rare willow. There is a fair fruit set of junipers, and the cones on the pines (mostly in Pine Canyon) are all old. The creek has surface water almost continuously in and above Pine Canyon, but most water is subsurface at camp level and downstream. The creek gradient is small. The surrounding canyon slopes are about 300–400 ft above the creek level. Well upstream of the junction of Pine Canyon, the riparian woodland is mostly huge oaks. We ~~started~~ hiked this canyon from 05:50 to 10:10 and again (upstream) from 12:25 to 14:00. We left at 16:00.

Tweed, J.
1892

Journal

Skeleton Canyon, Peloncillo Mtns., Coronado National Forest, 17 miles S. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico.

July 7 The weather July 7 was quite pleasant. Dawn was still & clear. A light NE breeze began around 10:00, switching to NW about noon. There were scattered clouds in the afternoon. Temperatures ranged from 65-90-85°F.

Species list:

Amphibians: none (no anuran larvae in tinajas)

Reptiles: Sonoran Mud Turtle
Greater Earless Lizard
Lesser Earless Lizard
Tree Lizard
Bunch Grass Lizard
Striped Plateau Lizard
Clark's Spiny Lizard
Cnemidophorus sp.
Pituophis

Birds: Turkey Vulture - 20
Cooper's Hawk - 1
Gray-tailed Hawk - pr. ad.
Red-tailed Hawk - 2 ad, 1 imm, 1 juv.
Golden Eagle - 1 ad
Gambel's Quail - 2
Mourning Dove - only 1!
Whip-poor-will - 1 (Ho.)
Magnificent Hummer - 2 ♂
Lucifer Hummer - 1 ♀
Black-chinned Hummer - 4 ♂, 8 ♀
Rufous Hummer - 2 ♂
~~Selasp~~ Selasphorus sp. - 2
Elegant Trogon - nest; ad ♂, ad ♀, subad ♂, juv (one each)
Acorn Woodpecker - 18
Gila Woodpecker - 1
Ladder-backed Woodpecker - 2
N. Beardless Tyrannulet - 1
W. Wood-Pewee - 8
Dusky-capped Flycatcher - 20
Ash-throated Flycatcher ≥50 - many juvs
Cassin's Kingbird - 4
Gray-breasted Jay - 50
Chihuahuan Raven - 4
Common Raven - 10
Bridled Titmouse - 20
Rock Wren - 18
Canyon Wren - 25
Bewick's Wren - 40

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Skeleton Canyon, Peloncillo Mtns, Coronado National Forest, 17 miles S. of Rodeo, Hidalgo Co., New Mexico.

July 7 (cont)

Crissal Thrasher – 1
Rhinopepla – 35
Hutton's Vireo – 12
Painted Redstart – 7
Hepatic Tanager – 15
Summer Tanager – 1
Black-headed Grosbeak – 1
Rufous-sided Towhee – 35
Canyon Towhee – 3
Rufous-crowned Sparrow – 16
Black-chinned Sparrow – 2
Brown-headed Cowbird – 30
N. (Bullock's) Oriole – 1
Scott's Oriole – 8
Lesser Goldfinch – 6

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 ft.

July 8

We drove all day and most of the night in order to keep an appointment w/ Ms. Peggy Burton, who once again assented to my collecting on the Washington Ranch. We arrived via U.S. Hwy 80 from Apache, Arizona to I-10 and E. through Lordsburg & Las Cruces to El Paso, where we took US Hwy 62/180 past Guadalupe Mountains National Park to a signed exit southwest of White City to Rattlesnake Springs, a designated part of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, arriving at 06:15 (having slept at Pine Springs, Guadalupe Mtns National Park for several hours). The habitat at Washington Ranch / Rattlesnake Springs was described on earlier visits in 1989 and 1991. The numbers of favored food plants of goldfinches, i.e. thistles & wild sunflowers, seem about normal for the area, based on my recollections of past visits.

I set up my nets in the same places I used last visit, the vegetation in these areas needing little trimming this morning. The time away from immediate tending of the nets was spent looking for birds at Rattlesnake Springs and using the picnic tables there for fixing & eating breakfast &

Journal, for 1992

Journal

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 ft.

July 8 (cont'd) lunch. Renee mostly read her books while I wandered around, her interest in birds evident only when working at the mist nets.

A yellow-green vireo was at Rattlesnake Springs. One (or the same bird) was there last summer as well, on the west end of the park property. This year, the yellow-green vireo was at the east end of the grove at Rattlesnake Springs. The bird was singing non-stop and moving widely among these trees. Pat Snyder, from N. New Mexico was there looking for the bird, and apparently not having had a satisfactory look. I found it easy to see & follow. I recorded several minutes of song. This recording I set up at my mist net on the Washington Ranch and lured the bird into the net almost immediately.

I biased my take of goldfinches today, taking only adult males, which were under-represented in my earlier sampling. The proportion of black-backed birds seen here this year is (compared to my recollections) far smaller. Is this because site fidelity among goldfinches is low, or because it is low in this and some other populations, or because individual black-backed birds may revert to green-backed plumage in subsequent molts? Or some combination of these, perhaps.

For Renee, the highlights were seeing, in the hand, a ♀ Ruddy Ducks, a ♂ Vermilion Flycatcher, a Yellow-breasted Chat, a ♂ Summer Tanager, a ♂ Blue Grosbeak, and a ♂ Painted Bunting, among many other netted birds.

Weather July 8 was quite pleasant. There was not a cloud in the sky, and light E. breezes blew until 10:15. After a short period of still air, the wind changed to 5-10 mph out of the W, which continued until we left at 13:00. Temperature 70°-85° F.

Tucker, J.

1992

Journal

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 8 (cont) ~~The~~ Species List:

Herps: Crotaphytus sp.

Birds: Green-backed Heron
Mallard
Turkey Vulture
Red-tailed Hawk
N. Bobwhite
Wild Turkey
Killdeer
Mourning Dove
Yellow-billed Cuckoo
Greater Roadrunner
nighthawk sp.
Black-chinned Hummingbird
Archilochus sp.
Ladder-backed Woodpecker
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Vermilion Flycatcher
Ash-Throated Flycatcher
W. Kingbird
Cassin's Kingbird
Cave Swallow
Barn Swallow
Bewick's Wren
E. Bluebird
N. Mockingbird
Bell's Vireo
Yellow-green Vireo
Yellow-breasted Chat
Summer Tanager
N. Cardinal
Blue Grosbeak
Indigo Bunting
Painted Bunting
Rufous-crowned Sparrow
Cassin's Sparrow
Red-winged Blackbird
Brown-headed Cowbird
Orchard Oriole
N. (Bullock's) Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch

mammals: striped skunk

Terrell, J.

1992

Journal

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, 8 miles S. of San Antonio, Socorro Co., New Mexico.

July 9 Renee and I left Washington Road to go through Carlsbad Caverns and to Renee supper at a restaurant in Carlsbad. We returned to Rattlesnake Springs at dusk to watch the emergence of fireflies, which Renee saw for the first time. We then left for home, since Renee was getting homesick. We camped at Valley of the Fires State Park near Carrizozo. We then drove to Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, outside the Rio Grande in central New Mexico. This refuge is one of tamarisk-dominated riparian habitats (with cottonwoods of "grove" quality confined to the north end) and arid brushy lands above the floodplain. Some (much) of the floodplain is given over to impoundments and wildfowl food crop plantings. This refuge is extremely popular with bird watchers at all seasons. We made loops of the tour roads both to the north and to the south from the refuge headquarters. We visited from 08:05 – 11:30. Weather clear, light w. breeze 75–85°F.

Species list (birds only seen):

Birds: Pied-billed Grebe – 50
American White Pelican – 76
Double-crested Cormorant – 30
Olivaceous Cormorant – 45
least Bittern – 2 (H.O.)
Great Blue Heron – 15
Great Egret – 6
Snowy Egret – 75
Little Blue Heron – 3
[Tricolored Heron – refuge rec.]
Cattle Egret – 20
Green-backed Heron – 15
Black-crowned Night Heron – 25
Yellow-crowned Night Heron – 1
White-faced Ibis – 146
Snow Goose – 2 (apparently crippled)
Canada Goose – 60
Green-winged Teal – 2
Mallard – 20
N. Pintail – 4
Blue-winged Teal – 7
Cinnamon Teal – 50
Gadwall – 10
American Wigeon – 2

Fischer J.

1992

Journal

Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, 8 miles S. of San Antonio Socorro Co., New Mexico

July 9 (cont)

Red Head - 60
*Ruddy Duck - 1
Turkey Vulture - 12
Red-Tailed Hawk - 2 ad
American Kestrel - 6
Ring-necked Pheasant - 45
Scaled Quail - 4
Gambel's Quail - 20
Virginia Rail - 4 (H.O.)
Sora - 3 (H.O.)
American Coot - 30
Killdeer - 50
Black-necked Stilt - 25
American Avocet - 20
Greater Yellowlegs - 5
Spotted Sandpiper - 8
Western Sandpiper - 1
Least Sandpiper - 2
Wilson's Phalarope - 2
White-winged Dove - 1
Mourning Dove - 25
Yellow-billed Cuckoo - 2 (H.O.)
nighthawk sp - 1
Black-chinned Hummer - 10
Ladder-backed Woodpecker - 3
Black Phoebe - 1
Say's Phoebe - 3
Ash-throated Flycatcher - 1
W. Kingbird - 18
N. Rough-winged Swallow - 2
Barn Swallow - 75
Verdin - 1 (H.O.)
American Robin - 1
N. Mockingbird - 6
Loggerhead Shrike - 1
European Starling - 6
Bell's Vireo - 1 (H.O.)
Common Yellowthroat - 20
Yellow-breasted Chat - 2 (H.O.)
Blue Grosbeak - 15
Rufous-sided Towhee - 2
Lark Sparrow - 2
Black-throated Sparrow - 5 (H.O.)
Red-winged Blackbird - 65
meadowlark sp - 2
Yellow-headed Blackbird - 18
Brewer's-tailed Blackbird - 12
Brown-headed Cowbird - 40
N. (Bullock's) Oriole - 3
House Finch - 3
Lesser Goldfinch - 6
House Sparrow - 4

Tucson, Ariz
1992

Journal

Page Springs on the Deschutes River, Harney Co., Oregon. Elevation 4235 ft.

July 23 I left Sacramento just after supper N. on Interstate 5, E. on Calif. State Hwy 299 to U.S. 395 in Alturas, Calif. to U.S. 20 in Burns, Oregon, then Oregon State Hwy 78 to Oregon State Hwy 205 to Frenchglen, then the four miles E. & S. over gravel road to the BLM campground at Page Springs. I was unable to drive straight through, so I stopped along U.S. 395 at Lake Albert in Oregon & slept about 4 hours, so I arrived at 10:30. Please see July, 1990 notes for habitat description. I returned to complete a partial sample. I set up my net at the back of composite #7, under a large, fruiting juniper tree. I caught two 4 lesser goldfinches & I ended in about 45 minutes. Birds were surprisingly few American Goldfinches this year - I heard only 2 and saw none. I left Page Springs at 12:35. Rest drive to Caldwell Idaho via U.S. 20 and Interstate 84. There I spent the night with Lee Chen (my best man) and his wife and children. Warm, clear, calm, temp. 65°-75°F

Species list:

Herps: W. Fence Lizard

Birds: Turkey Vulture - 2 ad
Red-tailed Hawk - 1 ad
Mourning Dove - 10
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker - 2
W. Wood-Pewee - 4
Say's Phoebe - 2
Ash-throated Flycatcher - 4
Tree Swallow - 3
Violet-green Swallow - 8
Cliff Swallow - 12
Common Raven - 1 (H.O.)
Rock Wren - 1 (H.O.)
House Wren - 2
American Robin - 15
Yellow Warbler - 3
Common Yellowthroat - 1 (H.O.)
W. Tanager - 2 (H.O.)
Black-headed Grosbeak - 3
Rufous-sided Towhee - 2
Song Sparrow - 6
Brewer's Blackbird - 12
Brown-headed Cowbird - 8
House Finch - 10
Lesser Goldfinch - 15
American Goldfinch - 2 (H.O.)

TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin, 8 miles E. & 4 miles S. God's Pocket Park, Jarbidge Mountains, Elko County, Nevada. Elevation 6500 ft.

July 24-25 I left Caldwell at 10:30 and drove to NE Nevada via I-84 to US 93 south through Twin Falls, Idaho, through Jackpot, Nevada to a turnoff signed O'Neil Basin about 26 miles S. of Jackpot on U.S. Hwy 93. I took a good gravel road ~~NE~~ NW approx 20 miles to Delmar Ranch, where the road turns NNE. About 2½ miles beyond the Delmar Ranch, the road crosses Cottonwood Creek. I camped here just downstream from the road crossing at a site which clearly had seen similar use before. I set up the tent quickly after my 18:30 arrival, under windy & threatening skies. Just to the N. skies are clear! Wind NE 10-20 mph, Temp ~75°F, fairly humid. After tending to birds, I made a short foray downstream. I fixed supper after dark, to the musical accompaniment of several groups of coyotes at greater and lesser distance from camp.

On the morning of July 25 I made a foray 3/8 mile downstream & 3/4 mile upstream from camp. The stream drainage cuts through basaltic rimrock downstream and against a basaltic cliff upstream, & flats dominated by big sagebrush. The stream itself is a meandering, slow-moving, small fish-containing water course, with several species of willow almost the only large plants in the riparian zone. These are nearly continuous on the banks of the creek, mostly saplings 5-10' tall, except 2 trees well upstream which are 20-22' tall and appeared to be black willows. Admixed with willows & widespread is wild rose (Rosa) and a Rhus sp. More local are nettle, columbine, aster, & some other wildflowers. In the stream channel are rushes & sedges (former more common), and grasses of several types cover most of the flat lowlands adjacent to the stream below the level of the sagebrush flats. These flats are richly admixed

TROCHET, J.

1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin, 8 miles E and 4 miles S. of Dolly Pocket Peak, Jarbidge Mountains, Elko County, Nevada. Elevation 6500 ft.

July 24-25 (cont) with lupines & rabbitbrush, with a little snakeweed. Except in a few places, signs of heavy grazing are everywhere to be seen on the plant life, especially sagebrush in places. Cow patties are almost everywhere. Upstream the flow is impounded in several places by beaver dams. I saw 2 lodges also. Here especially the willows are not confined to the immediate vicinity of surface water, but spread out on the flat land below the level of the sagebrush flats. The walk this morning was from 06:10 – 10:15, when I returned for breakfast & to break camp.

Weather this morning was cool, calm, & clear. Temps 55° – 65° F. Much less humid today.

Species list (lower Cottonwood Creek):

Herp: Thamnophis sp. – 1

Birds: Canada Goose – 6
Mallard – 14
Blue-winged/cinnamon Teal – 1
Red-tailed Hawk – 1 ad
American Kestrel – 1 u
Sage Grouse – 11
Sora – 1 (H.O.)
Killdeer – 8
Greater Yellowlegs – 2
Spotted Sandpiper – 1
Wilson's Phalarope – 6
Ring-billed Gull – 2
Mourning Dove – 4
Great Horned Owl – 1 (H.O.)

mammal: Tamias sp. – 5

Common Nighthawk – 25
Black-chinned Hummingbird – 2 (1♂, 1u)
Broad-tailed Hummer – 1♂
Belted Kingfisher – 3 (1♂, 1♀, 1u)
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker – 8 (on trees)
Gray Flycatcher – 3
Jay's Phoebe
Horned Lark – 12
N. Rough-winged Swallow – 20
Cliff Swallows – 110 (45 nests)
Barn Swallow – 2
Clark's Nutcracker – 1 (others H.O.)
Black-billed Magpie – 12
Common Raven – 4

Trichet, J.
1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin 8 miles E. & 4 miles S. of Bob's Pocket Peak, Jarbidge Mountains, Elko County, Nevada. Elevation 6500 feet.

July 24-25 (cont'd)

Rock Wren – 6	Black-headed Grosbeak – 17
Canyon Wren – 2	Lazuli Bunting – 3 (1♂, 2 H.O.)
House Wren – 15	Green-tailed Towhee – 1
Marsh Wren – 12	Brewer's Sparrow – 165
American Robin – 8 (all H.O.)	Vesper Sparrow – 7
Sage Thrasher – 30	Song Sparrow – 25
Loggerhead Shrike – 3	Red-winged Blackbird – 15
European Starling – 1 (!)	W. Meadowlark – 12
Orange-crowned Warbler – 1	Brewer's Blackbird – 35
Yellow Warbler – 20	House Finch – 10
Common Yellowthroat – 6	Pine Siskin – 1

At 12:15 I introduced myself to Mr. Horace Smith of Cottonwood Ranch and secured permission to work the middle & upper portions of Cottonwood Creek, the latter being almost the only cottonwoods in the O'Neil Basin (there are a few in upper Canyon Creek, next drainage S.). After receiving directions, I went up to the area where the N., middle, & S. forks of Cottonwood Creek converge. There were no cottonwoods here, but the discontinuous riparian vegetation, still dominated by willows, was taller & a bit more complex, largely owing to the wider admixture of Rosa, which here grew often in thickets. The willows themselves were taller, 10-18' commonly. The creek was intermittently above ground, and where it was, the riparian growth was lushest. The big sagebrush was less dense and generally smaller. In a couple places, the admixed forbs covered far more ground than the sagebrush itself. Wildflowers included those found below. There were no beaver dams in this area. From this area one could see the upper S. fork drainage ~~etc~~ containing the cottonwoods. To reach these, I retraced

Throne, J. A.
1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin, 5 miles E. & 4 miles S. of Wood's Pocket Park, Jarbidge Mountains, Elko Co, Nevada. Elevation 6500 ft.

July 24-25 (cont'd) my steps a short ways and took a track across the creek bottom & onto the slopes S. of the stream. After about 1½-2 miles, I came to a metal cattleguard at the second fenceline. I did not cross the guard, but turned W. and drove the track paralleling the fence. I drove this about 2½ miles, parked off the road & walked N. toward the creek ~1 mile. I crossed 2 shallow drainages before reaching the top of a long slope down to Cottonwood Creek. Here I walked right into the middle of the fenced biological study area in the drainage. I walked the creek first ½ mile downstream to the lowest tall cottonwood I could see (3/4 mile downstream was a large copse of willows, & apparent cottonwood or aspens). From this point upstream for about 3-3½ miles, the creek is continuous, on the surface, and riparian growth is largely continuous, though tall trees are not. The several large cottonwood groves have trees 50-70' high, 2-3' dbh, and mostly dead tops. These large trees are all lance-leaf cottonwoods and are localized to 6-8 areas in this 3-3½ miles span. The bulk of the tall riparian vegetation is willow and quaking aspen, the former commonly 15-20' tall, the latter commonly 20-40 ft. In some places the dominant plant was alder, a shrub or tree 10-30' tall. Rose was common along the creek, again forming thickets, some low, some taller than me. The stream bottom was impounded repeatedly (about 20 times I saw) by beavers, and about 10 of these were v. substantial ponds. Most of these had visitor (in mid-afternoon!) resident beavers. Lots of shrubs and wildflowers in flower, more columbine here than below. Lots of grass, too. The adjacent slopes had stunted sagebrush, admixed c̄ Rosa, Rhus, and bitterbrush, and several other shrubs I can't identify. The shrub cover is mostly < 2' tall. The north-facing slope had a few

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin, 8 miles E. & 4 miles S. of God's Pocket Peak, Jarbidge Mountains, Elko Co., Nevada. Elevation 6500 feet.

July 24-25 (cont'd) pockets of small aspens, and the pocket nearest the mouth of the canyon from which the S. fork emerged had seven 20-30' white fir. Right at the mouth of the canyon, on the rocky promontory guarding the S. side, there were 8-10 small trees of a type I couldn't identify. These had stiff, hard leaves like: – sharp tip, and a feathery fervor. The creek gradient was about 3x that of middle & lower portions of the creek, & flowing over gravel. From the top of the stream channel covered, I returned to the car by intercepting the fence line road right at the bottom of the foothill slopes (virtually the end of the road) & walked about 3 miles, gently downhill, back to the car. At sunset, I returned to Cottonwood Ranch headquarters, thanked Mr. Smith and left.

Weather during the afternoon of July 25 was partly to mostly cloudy until 18:00, when skies mostly cleared. Variable breezes <5 mph. Temp peaked at 85°F, 65° by sunset. No precip today.

Species list (upper & middle Cottonwood Creek July 25):

Amphibian: Rana pretiosa – 1 (I caught the only amphibian I saw)

Reptile: Sceloporus sp. – 2

Birds: Great Blue Heron – 1 imm
Mallard – 18
Turkey Vulture – 3
Red-tailed Hawk – 2 ad
Golden Eagle – 1 imm
American Kestrel – 1 ♂, 2 ♀, 1 imm ♂, & 2 juv.
Prairie Falcon – 1
Sage Grouse – 9
Sandhill Crane – 1-2 (H.O., F.O.)
Killdeer – 3 (H.O.)
Mourning Dove – 2
Common Nighthawk – 6
White-throated Swift – 1
Passerine sp. – 1
Belted Kingfisher – 4
Lewis Woodpecker – 16
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker – 25
N. Wood-Pewee – 2

Jones, P.
1992

Journal

Cottonwood Creek, O'Neil Basin, 8 miles E & 4 miles S. of God's Pocket Peak
Jarbidge Mountains, Elko Co., Nevada. Elevation 6500 ft.

July 24-25 (cont'd)

Willow Flycatcher – 1
Gray Flycatcher – 4
Jay's Phoebe – 2 (H.O.)
Horned Lark – 8
N. Rough-winged Swallow – 12
Black-billed Magpie – 10
Common Raven – 2 (H.O.)
Bushtit – 12
Rock Wren – 3
House Wren – 25
Mountain Bluebird – 14
American Robin – 20
Sage Thrasher – 1
Loggerhead Shrike – 1
Warbling Vireo – 5
Orange-crowned Warbler – 2
Virginia's Warbler – 1
Yellow Warbler – 12
MacGillivray's Warbler – 9
W. Tanager – 6 (all ♂♂)
Green-tailed Towhee – 40 (almost all high up toward foothills)
Rufous-sided Towhee – 2
Brewer's Sparrow – 110
Vesper Sparrow – 30
Lark Sparrow – 3 (only around ranch H.Q.)
Song Sparrow – 20
Red-winged Blackbird – 8
Brewer's Blackbird – 10
House Finch – 20
American Goldfinch – 2 (1♂, 1 H.O.)
Raven – 14
Tamias sp. – many (~100)
mule deer – 1 antlerless & 1 buck 3 pts R – 4 pts L
Antilocapra – 1 seen

mammals: mole sp. – 1 seen briefly
raccoon – track
skunk – track
coyote – 1 seen

Little Colorado River 5.5 miles W. of Holbrook, Navajo Co., Arizona. Elev. 5050 ft.

July 27-29

I arrived late last night, having travelled with little stopping since leaving NE Nevada on the night of July 25. I travelled US 93 south to Interstate 80 east to Interstate 15, south on Utah State Hwy 28, south on Utah State 24, to Utah Hwy 95, to Utah Hwy 261, to US Hwy 163, to Navajo Tribal Hwy 59, to US Hwy 191 to Chambers, & finally Interstate 40 to Holbrook, enabling

TRACHET, J

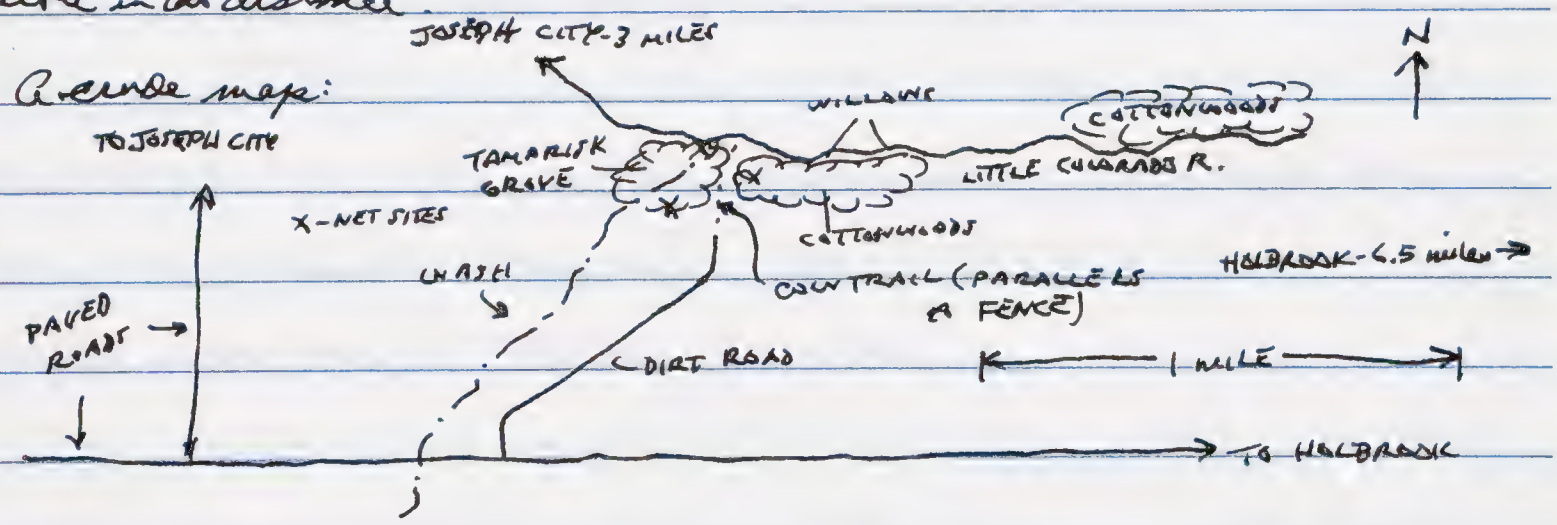
1992

Journal

Little Colorado River, 6.5 miles W. of Holbrook, Navajo Co. Arizona. Elev. 5450 ft

July 27-29 (Cont) visiting the Schweizers in Forey, Utah, before pushing on through Capitol Reef, across Glen Canyon, Monument Valley, Kayenta, Many Farms, Chinle, Ganado, Chambers, and finally to Holbrook, where I spent the night in a motel. Before dawn I returned to a place on the south side of the river that I scouted during my 19 visit, one mile downstream from my first field site. This place is reached by going west from Holbrook 10 miles to Joseph City, S. across river at Wendover Lane, to junction E a paved road coming from S. Holbrook, turn left onto this road, backtracking a short distance E. to a dirt road going NE to a grove of cottonwoods visible in the distance.

A crude map:



This area is a plain sloping gently to the south bank of the Little Colorado River, with a wash having intermittent surface water roughly running parallel to the dirt road access to streamside groves. Where the wash drains into the river, there is a grove of fairly large tamarisks, this grove extending away from the river some 70 yards along the wash, and scattered trees even farther. Upstream from the wash is a grove of mostly medium size cottonwoods (20-35') of about 3/8 mile in extent. The grove has a spotty understory of tamarisk, coyote willow, cocklebur, and a few wildflowers. There are scattered large cottonwoods (40-45') & tamarisks (to 20-25') in the upstream grove & along the lower portion of the wash. Otherwise, the vegetation is mixed shrubs, mostly 2-5' tall, inclu-

TRACHET, J.

1992

Journal

Little Colorado River 6.5 miles W of Holbrook, Navajo Co., Arizona. Elevation 5050 ft.

July 27-29 (cont'd) ding New Mexico olive (esp. near large cottonwoods), winterfat, saltbush, and a thorny clover-like plant, c̄ more thorns in the sun & more leaves in the shade. A bit of grass grows almost everywhere, but is lush only in the shade of some of the large cottonwoods. This area is more degraded than the upstream grove I worked before, but there are lots of goldfinches here this year and I don't have to hike in long distance c̄ my nets. Plus, I can camp in the shade!

I had my nets all set up by 07:30. I caught many birds today (incl. 60-70 Virginia's Warblers), but only two goldfinches. I closed nets at 19:50.

Weather today, July 27, was clear all day here, though clouds, some assoc'd c̄ rain, were visible in every direction, with most rain to S. & SE. at least 40 miles away. There were also heavy clouds beyond the San Francisco peaks, but I didn't note any rain. Temperatures 65°-92°-78°F, winds variable, mostly <5 mph. Not very humid here.

On July 28, I ran among nets all morning, with far fewer birds captured today. I caught 4 goldfinches, but closed my nets at 13:15, since I fell ill with gastroenteritis. I slept the afternoon away, except when I had to puke or crap, which was too often.

Weather July 28 was much like yesterday, without many clouds in the distance except around Humphrey's Peak. Light afternoon W. winds about 5 mph. Temperatures 65°-95°-80°F.

On July 29, I woke up feeling pretty good, after a bad night. I saw my 20th goldfinch fly into my first net while opening up the second, and given my recent health, I decided that 20 birds would do and ended my day at 07:20. I packed up and hit the Interstate by 09:15.

Weather July 29, early morning was clear & calm, temps 65-70°F. It was a bit more humid than yesterday early.

Tucson, Ariz.
1992

Journal

Little Colorado River, 6.5 miles W. of Holbrook, Navajo Co., Arizona, Elevation 5050 ft.

July 27-29 Species list:

(cont) Herps: *Crotaphytus* sp.

Birds: Turkey Vulture
Swainson's Hawk – 1 ad 7/27
Red-tailed Hawk
Killdeer
Spotted Sandpiper
Mourning Dove
Common Nighthawk
Black-chinned Hummingbird
N. (Red-shafted) Flicker
W. Wood-Pewee
Black Phoebe
Say's Phoebe
Ash-throated Flycatcher
W. Kingbird
Bank Swallow
Cliff Swallow
Barn Swallow
Common Raven
Bewick's Wren
American Robin
N. Mockingbird
Phainopepla
Warbling Vireo
Orange-crowned Warbler
Virginia's Warbler
Yellow Warbler
MacGillivray's Warbler
Common Yellowthroat
W. Tanager
Black-headed Grosbeak
Blue Grosbeak
Lazuli Bunting
Vesper Sparrow
Lark Sparrow
Brown-headed Cowbird
N. (Bullock's) Oriole
Scott's Oriole
House Finch
Lesser Goldfinch

Mammals (all track only)
raccoon
skunk
Canis sp.
foxes
mice
leporid
Bos
Equus

J. A. Trochet
1991-1992

Species Accounts

TRICHET, J. A.

1991

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area 3 miles W. of Weldon, Kern Co., California.

Elevation 2500 ft.

July 10 (Cont) found lesser and Lawrence's goldfinches swarming together. Today, on the west end of the riparian vegetation, I found 3 American goldfinches. Having earlier found both lesser & Lawrence's goldfinches here, I note that this woodland is the first I've found with all members of the subgenus *Astragalinus* present. I cannot see any differences in habitats used by lesser & Lawrence's here, though the latter is less numerous here and more patchily distributed in the stretches of riparian woodland with large trees, where they do not exclude lesser goldfinch. The three American goldfinches, all males, two together & a singer first seen later, were all in the saplings at the western margin of the woodland, where the E shore of Lake Isabella would be were it, not for the drought.

Washington Ranch, adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet

July 31 On July 29, there were about 120 lesser goldfinches here & at adjacent Rattlesnake Springs (a fence divides fairly continuous habitat). Yesterday there were about 60 goldfinches. Today, I could find only about 30. But today, as with all preceding days, there are lots of goldfinch ♂ display song flights & chases between males and between females. 18 goldfinches were observed as 9 ♂/♀ pairs. There is every evidence that breeding is continuing here, and by several pairs. I can be certain of only one pair, however, who are attending a nest (♀ sitting quietly most of the last 2 days) 10-11 feet up in a hackberry in a mixed deciduous copse astride the SW boundary fence of the ranch. The male of this pair is about 75% black-backed. About 30% of adult males appear entirely black-backed (but one cannot tell ☓ in the hand), the remainder (save about 10%) with mixed black & green backs, tending

Lucas, J.

1991

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

Washington Ranch adjacent to Rattlesnake Springs portion of Carlsbad Caverns National Park, Eddy Co., New Mexico. Elevation 3650 feet.

July 31 more than black-backed.

(Cont) I heard one singing bird at Washington Ranch this morning include a couple phrases which, to my ear, seemed borrowed from Orchard Oriole (*Icterus spurius*). Among many species I've heard goldfinches mimic, Orchard Oriole has not been personally detected before.

TROCHET, JOHN

~~1989~~

1991

Ambystoma (tigrinum)

Tiger Salamander

Doolittle Ranch, 3/4 mile downstream of confluence of the Sapello & Mora Rivers, Mora Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6800 ft.

June 28 Right after it quit raining, about 22:15, I got up to urinate. Flopping across the dirt road behind my tent was an Ambystoma, literally looking more like a fish flopping around than a Tetrapod. It measured 9.0 cm SV length. Striking was its almost total lack of pattern. The animal was entirely grayish-olive (in my flashlight beam) and had only the faintest mottling, not what I expected from a Tiger Salamander.

TROCHET, JOHN

~~[illegible]~~ 1991

Cooper's Hawk

Accipiter cooperii

BLM land along Cut Creek, 1 mile E. of Clay Ranch, adjacent to Dinosaur National Monument (Jensen section), Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 feet.

June 16 I found a nest of this species 18 feet up deep in the interior of a 28-foot cottonwood meta centrally placed in a 40 yard stretch of riparian gallery woodland, this as a result of an adult (prob ♂) carrying in a food item. This food item was a Cnemidophorus lizard, brought in from arid brushlands to the south of Cut Creek. I saw what was probably the same bird, also carrying a whiptail lizard, on the morning of June 14, also coming in from the arid brushland. These lizards, by ranges indicated in Stebbin's field guide, must be Cnemidophorus tigris.

Tucker, J.A.

1991

Yellow-billed Cuckoo

Coccyzus americanus

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W of Weldon, Kern Co., California Elev. 2500 ft.

July 10 In the young riparian growth (all 5 yrs old or less, fide Stephen Laymon) near the W. limit of the riparian woodland here, I found 5 cuckoos today. This "subpopulation" nearly equals the number known for the remainder of the valley's woodland (7). The population here, one of the least in the state, is in serious decline, too.

July 18 Stephen Laymon confirmed the presence of at least 5 cuckoos at the far W. end of the riparian woodland, and found one nest with 2 young, which he showed me in the waning rays of sunlight. The further has fairly well defined the territory limits of a second pair. The nest itself was a rather poorly constructed platform about 7½ feet up in a small cottonwood overlooking an unvegetated "Railway" running NE ↔ SW through the woodland. The bills of the young were visible at nest's edge, & with some effort the outline of the birds could be seen through the bottom of the nest, reminiscent of mourning dove nests. In the wild, the branch supporting the nest described a considerable arc, but the young birds seemed quite unconcerned. We did not linger long, for Stephen said the adults are feeding these birds at very frequent intervals.

Lucas, John

1991

Ladder-backed Woodpecker

Picoides scalaris

Blackrock Bosque, Zuni Indian Reservation, 3/4 mile E. of Blackrock McKinley Co., New Mexico. Elevation 6435 feet.

June 30 In the company of Rl Schneider, I found a ♂ Ladder-backed Woodpecker in the mid-portion of this extensive cottonwood-willow woodland. ~~This is the~~ This was a small woodpecker, clinging against the side of a small cottonwood, propped up on its stiff tail. Small chisel-like gray bill. Head c̄ red crown, dark eye, off-white face c̄ dark outline to auricular area; blackish hindneck; "ladder-back," c̄ alternating horizontal bars of whitish & very dark brown or blackish; wing coverts of folded wing dark brown, c̄ conspicuous white spots. Folded flight feathers also dark brown, with white marking arranged as irregular white bars across folded wing. Median tail feathers all dark brownish; lateral 2-3 feathers whitish, moderately heavily barred c̄ blackish. Ventrally, bird was pale buff. Throat unmarked, breast & sides spotted, only lightly spotted on breast. Legs med. gray. Call & whinny c̄ stuttering quality of Nuttall's Woodpecker. Think this first record W. of continental divide locally. I suspect that this bird did cross the divide from the small population on the SE side of the Zuni Mountains. It is, I guess, possible that the bird originated in the Grand Canyon country & came up the Little Colorado River & Zuni River drainages. They would be the same subspecies, regardless whether from Sonoran or Chihuahuan desert origin.

TROCHET, JOHN

~~[illegible]~~
1991

Gray Vireo

Vireo vicinior

Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 14 During my walk upslope this AM S. on BLM land S. of Chew Ranch camp site, I heard a singing male. This was about 3/4 mile south of my tent, in open juniper habitat in somewhat broken terrain. The song is familiar to me, with phrases higher pitched, lacking the burriness, and more rapidly delivered, compared to Plumbeous Vireo. I did ~~not~~ not pursue the bird for visual confirmation. This seems perhaps somewhat farther north than the usual limits of summer distribution for *V. vicinior*.

TROCHET, JOHN

~~1989~~

1991

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

Crow Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uinta Co., Utah

Elevation 5000 ft.

June 15 At 06:55 this morning I saw a ♀ fly into a cottonwood (8" dbh, 22' high) on N. extremity of a small grove (8-10 trees) about 30' up drainage from my mist net. It landed amongst some leaves about 15' above ground and seemed quickly to disappear. I approached to find her in a nest built on a shallow crotch created by the terminal radiation of three groups of twigs. I walked to a position on top of the low canyon wall and observed from a distance of 40 feet the near simultaneous feeding of this bird by two ♂♂, one mostly black on the back, the other appearing green-backed. The mostly black-backed bird fed the female first, immediately followed by the green-backed bird. The former flew out. I noticed not which direction was taken, while the latter fed the female. This was at 07:06; this was repeated at 07:14 and 07:32, and always the mostly black-backed bird fed the female first. What was fed I could not say, because the males screened most of the nest & almost all of the sitting bird when they came to the nest. The males remained away from the nest at least until 08:15, when I left to check open mist nets elsewhere in this canyon liparian setting on the south part of the ranch. I positioned one mist net and pair of Judas birds almost underneath the nest, but through 13:00 I caught none of the three. At 14:20 I shot both males at the nest, the mostly black-backed bird having come in about 20 seconds before the second male. As soon as the second male came in, I shot, and killed both. The female fled the nest, but was also successfully shot when she returned 18 min later. The nest had at least two eggs.

I have seen goldfinch twice elsewhere (Washington Ranch, Eddy Co., New Mexico, and Blackrock Prague, Zuni Indian Reservation, McKinley Co., New Mexico, come right to mind), but I never suspected a breeding menage à trois!

~~June 16~~

TROCHET, JOHN

~~1987~~
1991

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

BLM land along Cut Creek, 1 mile E. of Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uintah Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 16 At 18:09, I was about to shoot an apparent green-backed male sitting on a wire 20 feet above the ground, when another male goldfinch came out of the field directly underneath the bird perched on the wire. This second bird flew past me to the riparian grove along Cut Creek 30 yards to the south. I turned around to see the bird on the wire drop into a scraggly 4' tall greasewood plant, one of five greasewoods standing well above the gray-green, 8-12" pretty unknown (to me) species of brush. He, too, emerged from the site (maybe 12-15 seconds after landing there) and flew to the riparian grove. I walked to the greasewood and found the female sitting (closely) on her nest, not flushing, in fact, until I was 2-3 inches from touching her. The nest was in the densest clump of leaves on the plant, six inches from its top. The three eggs were all crabbed eggs. I positioned a mist net near the nest. At 18:50, the first of the 2 males returned to the sitting ♀, having first paraded with the other male on the wire above. He flew out away from the net and was not captured. He appeared to be black-backed. The green-backed ♂, then dropped to the nest briefly and also flew out away from the net (which was positioned between the nest & Cut Creek). I walked to the opposite side of the nest, where I might flush the birds into the net. At 19:11, the males flew back together & landed on the wire. The black-backed bird dropped alone to the nest after a wait of about 45 seconds. I charged the nest and flushed the male into the net. The green backed ♂ still sat on the wire, and the female still on the nest. After I retreated to cover 25 yards away, the green-backed ♂ flew down from its perch directly into the mist net. I succeeded in netting the female as well. I have found only 2 nests here – both attended by 2 adult ♂♂ & 1 ♀. In both nests the black-backed ♂ took precedence at the nest. I am not aware of any literature including lesser goldfinch among

TROCHET, JOHN

~~1989~~
1991

Lesser Goldfinch
Carduelis psaltria

BLM campground along Cart Creek, 1 mile E. Chew Ranch, adjacent to Quarry Section of Dinosaur National Monument, Uintah Co., Utah. Elevation 5000 ft.

June 16 (cont) species known to have helpers at the nest. Of the many lesser goldfinch nests I have found, mostly at home, New Mexico, none was noted to have other than one male & one female, though nesting, at least some past years, have been "clumped" in distribution within Blackrock Bosque.

The nest itself had an outside diameter of 10.5 x 9.0 cm; the nest cavity measured 4.5 x 4.2 cm. The cavity was recessed about 2.8 cm below the rim. There were three layers of concentric circles of plant materials. The coarsest was outermost, and made of plant stems about 1½-2 mm diameter, now dried & gray. The middle was made of coarse grass. The innermost woven layer was a mix of fine grass stems & a bit of Rosenbeia. Padding the nest bottom but not really woven in were tufts of plant down and one tuft of wool. The nest margin incorporated 4 greasewood branchlets peripherally and was supported by the branching of about 5 mm diameter branches.

~~Canyon~~ Cañon City, Fremont County, Colorado. Elevation 5332 feet.

June 18 This is the putative type locality for the species, and of the nominate race, usually considered to be a black-backed male race. Of five birds I found here today, one was not well seen, one was a female, and three were adult males, none of which was black-backed: one bird was partially black-backed (~40%), the other 2 appeared entirely green-backed.

South Fork Kern River Wildlife Area, 3 miles W of Weldon, Kern Co., California. Elevation 2500 ft.

July 10 I have been to several places hosting summering lesser & American Goldfinches during my field work, and a couple places come to mind (near Jacumba, San Diego Co. & in the Carmel River Valley, Monterey Co.) where I have

Lovant, J.A.

1992

Mottled Owl

Ciccaba virgata

Harrelson Tract, Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, adjacent to Anzalduas County Park, 1 mile SW Mission, Hidalgo Co. Texas

April 26 About 16:30, crossing a well-wooded shallow drainage I had previously traversed, a small-sized owl popped up from the depths of a thicket of mostly leafless limbs and rested for about 10 seconds on one of these limbs about five feet above ground level, facing directly toward me. I froze, facing directly the owl, perched 25 feet away. I drew a blank on the bird's identification. An earless owl with dark eyes, streaked below, brought Barred Owl to mind, but this was quickly discounted because of the obvious small size. The bird began turning its head about 7 second after I first saw it, to the right, and flew off to its right and then away from me, quickly putting several tree trunks between us as it flew about 8-10 ft above the ground. I looked at the bird with binoculars only after it turned its head, not while we stared at each other.

This was a bird that seemed larger than a Screech-owl and much smaller than a Barred Owl, but no birds could be compared directly for size. The shape was large-headed and fluffy bodied, but the tail was resting on another limb and not seen until in flight. The head lacked ears and was mostly brown, contrasting with white circumferential bording of the facial discs. The white border appeared weakest or perhaps incomplete in the superior-lateral portions. Above the bill, between the eyes crossed a whitish "X", not quite so bold ~~as~~ (contrasty) as the facial disc margin. The facial discs were light brown, a lighter shade streaks noted with binoculars around dark brown eyes. The remainder of the head was medium brown. The bill was a sort of neutral color, not standing out as dark or light, but I didn't see it well. The upper breast and belly were mostly whitish, streaked with brown, more heavily streaked on the sides of the breast. An incomplete (nearly complete) brown band crossed the mid-to-lower breast. I recall

TROCHET, JOHN

1992

Mottled Owl

Ciccaba virgata

Santa Ana Tract, Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge, adjacent to Anzaldua County Park, 1 mile SW Granjeno, Hidalgo Co., Texas.

April 26 (Cont'd) nothing of the legs and feet. When the bird turned its head, I got my binoculars up to see the head in 2/3 profile, then the head in full profile. The bird then rocked or rather leaned forward and took flight. In this view I saw that the head was fairly finely dappled with buffy or off white, and similarly and more coarsely marked on the folded wings and back. The tail, of "normal" owl proportion, had 4-5 whitish bands crossing the brown base color. No voice was given.

I have seen mottled owl before, in Costa Rica, and this bird was much paler ventrally than those birds. I would like to report this finding, but I have an application to work at Havasu National Wildlife Refuge pending, and I might jeopardize that if it becomes known I was near in a "closed to the public" parcel.

Lucas, J.Q.

1992

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

National Audubon Society Sabal Palm Grove Sanctuary 7 miles SE of intersection of U.S. Highways 77 & 281 in Brownsville, Cameron Co. Texas. Elevation 25 feet

April 26 For the first time in eight summer trips to the Lower Rio Grande Valley of Texas, I found lesser goldfinches. And they are present in numbers. I found 14 birds around the headquarters building & parking lot, plus five more on trails near the E. side of the property. The only checklist I have handy is from Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge, which, like this place, borders the Rio Grande, but upstream, S. of Alamo, Texas. That list indicates that lesser goldfinches are seen at intervals of 2-5 years - in winter. There are not any breeding season records, based on the checklist and on asking the refuge manager a few years ago.

I saw 8 males well. They all appeared to have a solidly black, glossy dorsal coloration. I asked for permission to collect specimens, and surprisingly was not denied immediately, but when I explained my sampling scheme, I was turned down.

The sanctuary manager is Rose Farmer. She kindly went through her records to confirm her recollection of proven nesting in 1991. She found a nest in a tree just SW of the headquarters on June 28, 1991. Her notes did not record contents, but she recalls nestlings being fed on that date. She attributes the appearance and return of lesser goldfinches to altered agricultural practices. It seems the fields N & E of the sanctuary have been given to millet the last couple years.

This year, apparently, there have been two aborted nesting efforts. One nest was completed behind the headquarters building, but was abandoned for reasons unknown. Another was started about 50 yards S. of headquarters but was disassembled as it neared completion. It was uncertain whether the nesting material was being stolen, or the pair reassembling the nest elsewhere.

Lockwood, John

1992

Lesser Goldfinch

Carduelis psaltria

Armstrong Ranch, 2 miles E. of Armstrong, Kenedy Co., Texas. Elevation 20 feet.

May 10 Particularly after the reinforcement of yesterday's extensive tour of the ranch property, I must note the distribution goldfinches on the Refuge.

At this season, there are no flocks. Except at the water hole in the mesquite area near my camp, when I saw two pairs coming to drink April 27 and again April 28, I saw goldfinches only in pairs or two pairs in seeming territorial dispute. In such disputes, males chased only males & females only females.

Even where live oak woodland is quite extensive, goldfinches are not numerous there. The only woodland in which I found more than one pair (& there only two pairs) was roughly triangular about 110 meters x 70 meters x 85 meters. I am not certain why the oaks are so well divided up, though fences or fence posts appear to be the most important feature at this time. In any event, by comparison to oak woodlands in California, and certainly compared to riparian settings in the arid Southwest, these goldfinches are very over-dispersed. This was really brought home on the ranch tour yesterday, when almost every woodland of Virginia Live Oaks had a single singing ♂ goldfinch audible, with rarely heard at long distance (70-100 meters or greater) if at all. Some oak woodlands had no audible goldfinches, and most of these were small. Not even the largest woodland had 2 singing ♂♂. Even though yesterday's weather was overcast, song activity was considerable almost all morning, and not only for goldfinches, so I don't think these observations are skewed seriously by undetected silent goldfinches.

Tewes, John

1992

Ocelot

Felis pardalis

Big Bend Ranch State Natural Area, 20 miles E. of Presidio, Presidio Co., Texas

May 24 At 08:00, an ocelot bounded into view as I was removing a protesting Bell's Vireo from the mist net within the thorn forest at Los Cuevas. It forge briefly, then darted into the dense understory from which it emerged. It was in view for less than 2 seconds.

The cat was about 20" high at the shoulder, heavily spotted dark on a yellowish ground color dorsally & laterally, off-white on the chest. The irides were amber, nose pad pencil-eraser pink. There was dark brown spotting on forehead and conspicuous dark line behind the eye extending almost to the angle of the jaw. The spots were solid on the forelimbs, but many had pale centers on the sides of the body. Especially from the shoulder region to the sides of the belly, the spotting on the sides was arranged in rows, 3 or 4 of these running in parallel diagonally down and to the rear. The tail was about the length of the distance between the shoulders and the hips, spotted, but in a pattern I don't recall. When the animal turned to retreat, there was a conspicuous white spot on the hind surface of each ear noted. There was no voice given. Strangely, the animal was nearly silent in its movements over the leaf litter, making only a slight rustle when it turned to run away. I failed to notice the presence/absence of a scrotum.

At about 13:00, again while I was removing a screaming Bell's Vireo from the same net, the ocelot again came into view. Not bounding into the open this time, the animal approached (silently!) under the cover of the thornscrub understory. When our eyes met, it disappeared. All I could see was the eyes and part of the postocular stripe on the left.

May 25 Billy Pat McKinney, from Black Gap WMA, queried me this morning about yesterday's sighting. Owing to the leaf litter, he apparently found no sure track. He thought the habitat splendid, if limited in extent. The last ocelot sighting in the Big Bend region was apparently in the mid-1960's.

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